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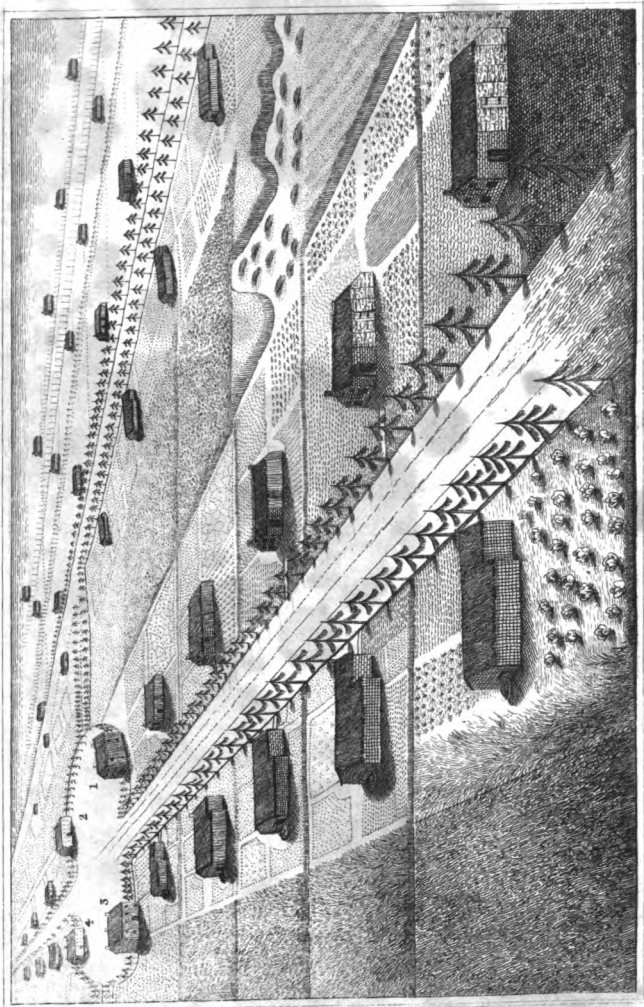








VIEW OF A PART OF THE COLONY OF FREDERICKS-BORD.



1. Directors' house. 2. School. 3 & 4. Spinning houses.

946 C18

AN ACCOUNT  
OF  
**THE POOR-COLONIES,**  
AND  
AGRICULTURAL WORKHOUSES,  
OF THE  
BENEVOLENT SOCIETY OF HOLLAND.

BY  
A MEMBER OF THE HIGHLAND SOCIETY  
OF SCOTLAND.

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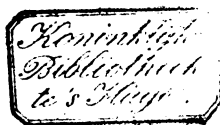
Da veniam scriptis quorum non gloria nobis  
Causa, sed utilitas officiumque fuit.  
OVID.

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MDCCCXXVIII.





**EDINBURGH**  
**PRINTED BY JAMES CLARKE & CO.**

TO  
**DR. COVENTRY,**

**PROFESSOR OF AGRICULTURE IN THE UNIVERSITY OF  
EDINBURGH,**

**This account of the manner in which the  
Resources of Agricultural Science have  
been successfully employed, in diminish-  
ing the Mendicity, Poor Rates, and Waste  
Lands of Holland,**

**Is, respectfully inscribed,**

**By**

**THE AUTHOR.**



## PREFACE.

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THE reader must not expect to find in the following account, any recipe for the abolition or extirpation of the poor. Mankind have been told from high authority, that poverty and misery are inseparably linked with their existence in this world, and that a portion of the population of every country shall be poor and dependent, in a certain degree, upon the charity and benevolence of others.

If, however, such be the melancholy and general doom of our nature, it becomes the philanthropist to strive in mitigation of the evil, and to look around him in quest of those palliatives, which Providence, in mercy, so uniformly provides.

The lack of wisdom in public measures, as in private affairs, will always be found to dissipate wealth, and to open wide the gates of the road to ruin ; and one country may, from this cause alone, find herself involved in pauperism, and oppressed by poors' rates, while her more fortunate neighbour may neither be burdened with a compulsory maintenance of the poor, nor have the frame of government shaken by the desperation of the starving.

Fear not, however, reader, that we shall at present weary you by illustrating the truth of this last opinion ; your own experience will readily suggest examples of it, in this or in other countries, and we believe that many ages must yet elapse, and many generations pass away, before either the governor or the governed, the ruler or the subject, the prince or the peasant, be so imbued with enlightened selfishness as to see and feel that their own personal interest is inseparably bound up with the happiness of the whole.

It being therefore certain that we shall have the poor always, the question follows—by what means shall they be best maintained? On this subject, a long and faulty practice holds out many useful lessons; and in no country are the fruits of experience more instructive and warning, than in highly distinguished England.

“It is more blessed to give than to receive.” All the amiable and kindly feelings of our nature are awakened by the former, but the latter eradicates self esteem in the receiver, and degrades, while it relieves the mendicant. Beyond a doubt, therefore, alms-giving should be restricted to the bodily infirm, or the mentally weak; and no gratuitous distribution of charity should be ever made to any others, without exacting from them a certain, and if possible, an equivalent return.

Another grand maxim in the management of the poor, arises from one of the first principles of the civil compact. Pri-

vate property in every well governed state, ought not merely to be preserved inviolate from gross assault, but free from every unnecessary encroachment and superfluous exaction. Unquestionably, the poor must be supported. They cannot be allowed to starve. Our fellow creatures cannot be permitted to famish on the streets, or perish from hunger on the high-ways. We admit, therefore, a distinct and positive obligation on the part of every government to charge itself, under certain conditions, with the maintenance of the poor, and on every community to be taxed, if necessary, for that purpose. It is no less, however, an obligation on government to watch over and protect the property of the governed ; and since experience has demonstrated that the maintenance of the poor may become a serious tax upon that property, it is the imperative duty of the presiding power, in every country, to take the most effectual measures for preventing or di-

minishing the evil. From these remarks, it may be safely inferred, that profuse expenditure in the maintenance of the poor is no less mischievous than gratuitous and indiscriminate alms-giving.

In every Christian country, and in none more than in this, the feelings of the rich are sufficiently alive towards the distresses of their poorer brethren. Civil agitations, and commercial difficulties, have taught most of the inhabitants of Europe the frailty of the tenure by which their earthly possessions are held, and the necessity of communicating freely to others, that kindness which it may be their turn, in a few years, to be supplicating for themselves. The application of this remark is both plain and important. Let these amiable sympathies, and benevolent inclinations be properly encouraged, and wisely directed, and the maintenance of the deserving poor, in ordinary times, will no longer be a matter either of difficulty or of danger.



Such seem to have been the reasonings of the Philanthropists of Holland, and by such motives they appear to have been guided in the establishment of their poor colonies, and agricultural work-houses.

In all countries, vast sums are charitably given, without inquiry, and without advantage, to ordinary mendicants. Few of the respectable classes throw away in this manner, less than a penny a-week, or five shillings a-year. What a sum, then, might be derived from this source alone! Inexperienced preceptors in the art of maintaining the poor, might have proposed, along with the abolition of public begging, the compulsory appropriation of the sums formerly given charitably and freely. Not so, however, Prince Frederick and his associates. They had the sagacity to perceive that no compulsory assessment can ever dry up the free and voluntary christian charity, although the lighter the poor tax, so much the more

copious and plentiful will the streams of private charity be. The problem was, to preserve in the minds of the donors, those feelings which really entitled their gifts to be dignified with the name of charity, and merely to remove from them their destructive quality of being indiscriminate and mistaken.

While the objects therefore were withdrawn, by which the charitable feelings were improperly excited, a new channel was immediately opened in which they might with equal freedom, and more beneficially flow.

Thus, the Benevolent Society of Holland began its efforts in 1818, with TWENTY THOUSAND members, paying a penny a-week, or five shillings a-year, not by compulsion, but with the same freedom and good will as they formerly felt in their mistaken alms-giving. It is for experience to show, and the reader to judge, how far these voluntary subscriptions have been kept in their true character of

charitable gifts ; but certainly no society has ever taken so much pains to confer on the public a direct participation in all their proceedings, and to keep alive in the mind of every donor his personal importance and individual influence in the scheme of benevolence. None of the members could say to himself, "the maintenance of the poor is undertaken by the government, and is proceeding independently of my exertions." On the contrary, every subscriber was taught to feel intimately and deeply, that if a philosopher, he was becoming also a philanthropist ; and that if a Christian, he was imitating his Master in the active duties of christian charity.

The only cause, however, of withdrawing the alms-giving from its original and faulty direction, was the power of applying it more beneficially. The donors themselves must be convinced of their possessing this power, and the amelioration of the poor, must be so palpable and

plain, that hesitation or doubt on the subject must be impossible. How wonderfully this has been produced, the following imperfect account, and an inspection of the colonies may show !

Indiscriminate alms-giving both impoverishes the donor, and fails in enriching the receiver. It is therefore, in every sense, entitled to the appellation of extravagance and profusion. The Benevolent Society undertook the task of proving, that their plan was much more economical and ameliorating than the old method which it was intended to supersede ; and that they might so manage the charity of the liberal, as to produce, at the smallest outlay, the greatest possible benefit to the needy.

In Frederiks-Oord, the experiment was made with a success so delightful and complete, that the government and the inhabitants of Holland generally called for the extension of the scheme, and viewed it as the best method in which, even the

compulsory assessments, could be appropriated. Hence arose the contracts with the managers of poor-houses and foundling hospitals, and the subsequent generalization of the plan as detailed in the following pages.

In our own recent visit to Holland, we were enabled to verify many doubtful statements, and examine personally almost the whole of the Institutions. Indeed, without this inspection, many of the details in the books would have been quite inexplicable. Both in their principles and practice, they are by far the most interesting and efficient charity establishments in Europe. On what may be their ultimate fate, it is not our wish to speculate at present. They are as yet only in their incipient and experimental condition ; but no person, accustomed to encounter the mendicity of Holland in 1815, and succeeding years, can return now to that country, without being struck with the total disappearance

of the hosts of beggars, or can visit the colonies in which these mendicants are now so profitably employed, without feeling convinced of the *actual* efficacy of the cure.

If ever the same method of supporting our mendicants and poor be attempted in this country, the commencement ought certainly to be conducted as in Holland, by a numerous body of small subscribers interested in the undertaking, and watching closely over its success. What participation Government should have in the undertaking, may be a question for future consideration. Our present conviction is, that any interference beyond a salutary control, or a fostering protection, could not fail to be prejudicial, and that, unquestionably, the whole executive ought to be entirely in the hands of the members of the society, and completely entrusted to individual enterprise and benevolence. In favour of the first attempt, nothing more should be requested from

the Government than a few years immunity from taxation,—perhaps a permission to collect the subscriptions, by means of the Government collectors,—an encouragement for well behaved corporals or sergeants to become the inferior servants of the society, and—that sort of advantage which always arises to every institution, from the understanding that the Rulers are not adverse to its principles and object.

A scheme may succeed in one country which may fail in another ; and although the success of the Dutch Benevolent Society may well encourage the formation of a British one, yet the members of the latter cannot be positively assured of the same happy results. The innumerable theories regarding the maintenance of the poor, and the various plans already before the public, may justly excite suspicion against every new proposal, and make every person considerate in bestowing his confidence where it has been

so often already disappointed. Now, so far from fearing this distrust and caution, it is exactly what we wish to awaken and keep alive, on the subject of the following account.

In narrating the facts as we have read and seen them, every attempt to delude the reader has been carefully avoided; and not a single theory, we trust, has been started in the whole course of our description. This rigid abstinence and self-denial, may have rendered the account less attractive and pleasing at first sight, but cannot have injured its utility as a delineation of an economical and improved method of maintaining the poor. Many of the details have been omitted, almost all abridged, and none given at length, unless relating to prominent and important observances. Much that has been found useful in Holland, may be improper or unnecessary in this country; but, sure we are, that, without the most intimate and constant communication with



the public,—without the strictest economy and vigilance in the management,—without the most accurate book-keepers, and under-officers, no success can attend any similar attempt.

On the other hand, there are many advantages in Great Britain for the promotion of such a scheme, which are wanting in Holland. The chief of these are, our superior knowledge of agriculture,—the better quality of our waste lands,—our comparatively open winters, and—the greater liberality of our donations.

Many of our readers will, perhaps, be struck with the prospect, which the Dutch scheme holds out, of ultimately relieving parishes from poor's rates altogether, by employing these rates in the *economical* cultivation of waste lands by their poor, during a certain number of years, and afterwards maintaining them on these cultivated lands alone, without farther assistance. The system in Hol-

land, however, has not existed long enough to establish this fact; and, although it is highly probable that such will be the result, yet it would be extremely injudicious to apply any of the forced contributions in that manner, until the success of a voluntary association had been tried in this country, as in Holland.

No objections can, with any justice, be made to the internal rules regarding the behaviour of the colonists. If it be true that every pauper has a conditional right to bare sustenance, and that the first object of charity is the mere preservation of life, it is no less certain, that the second purpose of the enlightened almsgiver, is the amelioration of the mendicant, and his gradual re-instatement among the productive classes of society. To effect the latter, it has always been found necessary to subject the pauper to a certain degree of restraint; and the discipline of the colonists is more entit-

led to praise on account of its mildness and gentleness, than deserving of blame for its superfluous severity. An economical, and even profitable maintenance of the poor, is the fixed design of the Society ; and, with a clear-sighted regard for this end, such regulations and restrictions only have been adopted as might curb all extravagance, and bear down the display of every vicious propensity. Most of the misery of paupers is produced, not by unavoidable misfortune, but by careless improvidence, or sinful indulgence. In the school of affliction the wretched receive their training, and, if irreclaimable, spend their days amidst its sorrows. Enlightened charity, however, while it relieves their wants, presents to their view the true causes of the greater part of their misfortunes ; and, along with food to the body, rouses the mind to a sense of its own degradation, and compels it, by precept and restraint, to return again to the paths of prudence,

and to resume its energies in the struggle for virtuous independence. By this test, the efficiency of every charitable institution must be tried: Not by the number of its inmates, but by the celerity with which they are returned to ordinary society in a condition to win their subsistence by their industry, and to manage it, when won, with wisdom and economy. Far be it from us to maintain, that the mendicant should bear the same rank, or enjoy the same comforts with those who subsist by their own honest efforts. This would, indeed, be to rob independence of its most valuable distinction, and wound its spirit by the most alarming injustice. But, akin to this error, is the opinion, that the receivers of alms may be effectually reclaimed or economically managed without either withdrawing them from the guidance of their own perverted desires, or controlling them by any rules of discipline and restraint unpleasant to themselves.

The transference of the poor, now maintained in the cities, to the country, tends less to increase the number of the poor than the present mode of management. A much more perfect control may be exercised over them in the country than in the towns, and they may be not only more economically maintained, but their children and themselves better educated, and trained to higher notions of the proprieties and wants of life. Scarcely any rule of the Dutch Society is entitled to higher praise, than that by which the management of their own affairs, and the acquisition of all comforts beyond bare subsistence, are immediately and intimately connected with the attainment of habits of industry and general good behaviour among the colonists.

Many of the following statements have been taken from books, and others from information obtained on the spot. It was, at one time, our intention to have thrown into an appendix, a variety of reports and other illustrative documents ; but, this

purpose was ultimately abandoned, and it was resolved not to burden the reader with the addition of more details, unless public anxiety demanded a fuller explanation than an introduction could give, and public utility required, clearer and more comprehensive statements. These omissions, however, in no way affect the truth of the grand results, and will not, we trust, prevent the British public from interesting themselves in a subject so fully entitled, in our opinion, to their deep consideration and regard.

There are two methods of visiting the colonies, after arriving at Amsterdam, either by crossing the Zuyder-Zee, or by a long and dreary journey through Zwolle. The latter is not the least instructive, as conducting the traveller across almost pathless tracts of uncultivated land, and enabling him to perceive more distinctly the effects produced by the colonial system. There are tolerable inns, both at Ommershans and Venhuisen ; and from the inns at Frederiks-Oord or Steenwyck,

as headquarters, the traveller may inspect the whole establishments. When collecting information, allowance must be made for the very natural desire which all the officers of the Society have, to give every thing the best appearance ; and an occasional difficulty may also arise, from the 'patois' Dutch spoken in the district. A dread of being misled by these sources of error, has been the cause of rejecting much of our own information collected on the spot, and this, too, upon the very subjects on which it would have been extremely desirable to have given more of the particulars.

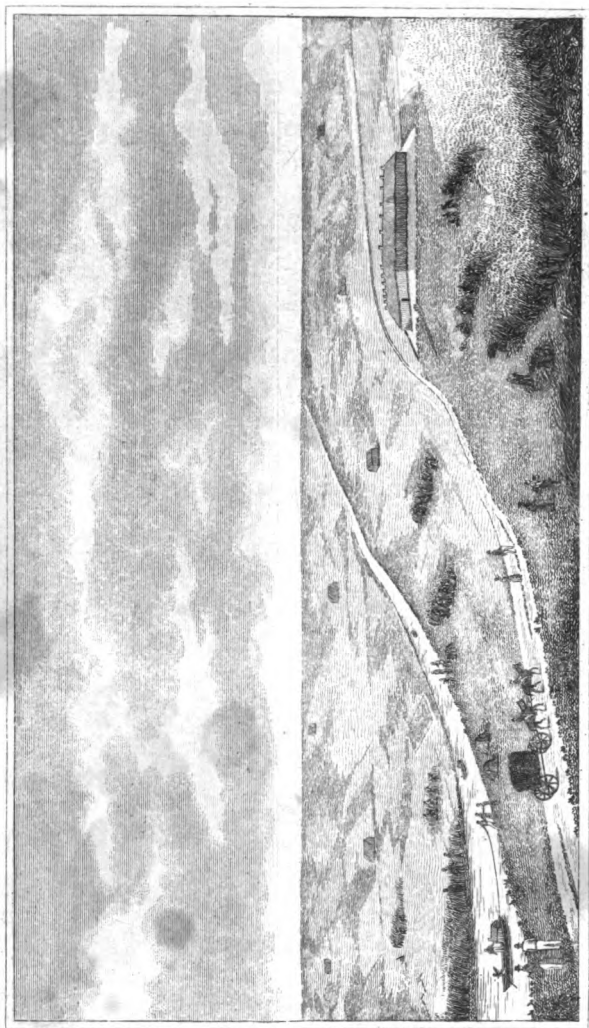
The weights and measures of Holland have been preserved, but every reader may easily convert these into the values of this country, by recollecting that

1 Ruthe (Rood or Perch)	= 121 English square feet.
600 Roods	= 1 Rhineland Morgen.
1 Rhineland Morgen	= about $1\frac{1}{2}$ Eng. stat. acres.
1 Schepel	= about 45 lbs.
5 Cents	= 1 Stiver or Penny.
20 Stivers	= 1 Florin or Guilder ; and
12 Florins	= £1 Sterling.



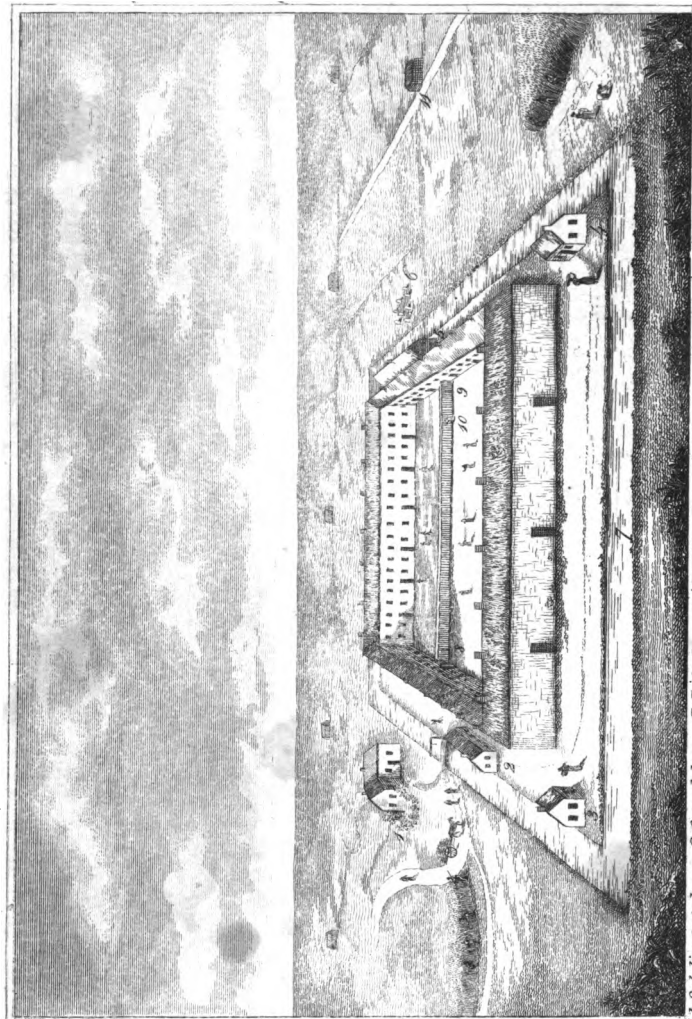


VIEW OF THE VEENHUIZEN AGRICULTURAL WORKHOUSE.





VIEW OF THE OMMERSCHANS AGRICULTURAL WORKHOUSE .



1. Subdirector's house. 2. Guard house. 3. Bake house. 4. Washing house. 5. Hospital. 6. Burial ground. 7. Canal. 8. & 9. Wall of division between the Men & Women. 10. Smith Shop &c. 11. The farm houses.

ACCOUNT  
OF THE  
DUTCH POOR COLONIES.

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THE BENEVOLENT SOCIETY of HOLLAND was founded at the Hague in the year 1818. Its constitution and object will be best explained by the following statement of its fundamental principles:—

Every inhabitant of the kingdom of the Netherlands, who is in possession of his legal rights, and not degraded by a criminal conviction for certain offences, may become an object of the Society's care.

Every member of the Society pays annually a contribution of fifty-two stivers, or one

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stiver per week, without prejudice to any additional donation.

Every person, whether a member of the Society or not, may purchase from the Society the woollen or linen cloth which the poor, who are under its direction, are employed in fabricating.

Any member of the Society may leave it at pleasure, and contracts no other responsibility, excepting for the sum which he may have subscribed in aid of the funds of the Society.

The funds which the Society derives from contributions, gifts, and other sources, are employed solely and exclusively for the purpose of founding agricultural colonies, where the indigent are relieved from want, by means of their own labour; and where the young and ignorant are instructed, and ultimately returned to that intercourse with the world, for which they had become unfit, in a condition to provide for their own wants, and to yield obedience to the laws.

Every community, parish, or other association, which confides the funds in their possession to this Society, preserves a superintendence

over their appropriation. Such funds are exclusively employed in favour of the poor belonging to the community which pays them.

The instruction of the Society's colonists in reading, writing, arithmetic, geography, music, history, spinning, weaving, knitting, and every branch of farming and field labour, is conducted at the expense of the Society; as also the religious instruction and public worship of all under its charge.

The administration of the business of the Society is entrusted to two commissions.

The first of these is called the "Commission of Benevolence." It is composed of a president, named for life; of two assessors to assist the president, named for a year, but indefinitely re-eligible; and of nine other members, among whom a secretary is chosen.

The Commission of Benevolence, thus consisting of twelve persons, is divided into four sections, of three members each. The first is charged with the administration of the finances, and chooses its own president. The instruction and education of the colonists are placed un-

der the control of the second section, of which the first assessor is always the president. The third section is entrusted with the correspondence of the Society. It chooses its own president. The fourth section superintends all the other branches of the Society's business, and the second assessor is always president.

When the Commission of Benevolence is not sitting, its functions are discharged by a committee, which is composed of such of its members as always reside at the Hague, and are not prevented, by their other avocations, from giving constant attendance. This committee is called the "Permanent Commission" of the Society; and the second assessor is its president.

A personal responsibility is attached to the two assessors. The first must take care that the orders, &c. of the commission contain nothing contrary to the rules by which the Society is constituted. For this purpose, all the resolutions and acts of the Society must be counter-signed by him before they can be executed. The second assessor, who is entrusted with the execution of the mandates which have been counter-signed by the first, is liable for every

misapplication of the funds from the purpose to which they are by these mandates specifically destined.

The president of the Commission of Benevolence is entrusted with the supreme direction of the affairs of the Society, and with the power of convoking the other members of that commission at pleasure, and dissolving their meetings in the same manner.

Each year a member of the Commission of Benevolence retires, but may be re-elected.

The second commission is intended to watch over and check the proceedings of the first. It is called the "Commission of Superintendence," and consists of twenty-four members, who are elected by the whole Society, and are re-eligible at the end of every period of service. This commission names its own president and secretary.

The Commission of Superintendence receives and verifies annually all the Society's accounts of receipt and expenditure ;—compares, for this purpose, every article of expenditure with its voucher ;—examines all the plans and works ex-



ecuted by the Society;—discharges the first Commission from its responsibility, and brings those to punishment who have contravened the general laws of the Society, or the resolutions and orders of the first Commission.

No change can be made upon any of the fundamental rules of the Society, without the assent of the two Commissions, and of the majority of the whole members of the Society.

Such are briefly the grand elementary laws by which this great voluntary association, for the purposes of benevolence, is bound together, and carried forward towards the successful execution of all its philanthropic purposes. No sooner were these rules sanctioned by his Majesty, and circulated by the government authorities through all the districts of Holland, than 20,000 individuals became members of the Society; and an annual revenue was raised, for the first experiment, of 70,000 florins, besides orders to the amount of 26,000 yards of cloth.

The inhabitants having thus seen the propriety of exerting themselves strenuously to cure a national evil, it became necessary to establish a

number of local or sub-committees in the different towns and districts, for the purpose of collecting the subscriptions and contributions, and of watching over their application by the Society. The local committees consisted, *in the towns*,—of two members of the magistracy,—of two ministers of the different religious persuasions,—of two of the most eminent members of the Society residing there,—and of the general or superior officer in command of the place; and, *in the country*,—of the chief local authority,—of one ecclesiastic,—and of one member of the Society. These sub-committees kept open accounts with the permanent commission at the Hague, and marked in them the names of each contributor or donator, and the amount of each contribution or gift. The sum total of all these accounts, after deducting certain expenses of collection, &c. constituted at first the income of the Society. The receipts were remitted by the local committees to the Finance Section of the first commission at the Hague, and were placed, by that section, in the National Bank. Upon that account, in the Bank, the

permanent commission alone could operate by written drafts, mentioning—the name of the receiver,—the object for which the money was drawn,—and the resolution authorising its payment. Each draft must also be signed by the president of the first commission, and countersigned by the second assessor.

With a view of simplifying the checks upon the Society's outlay, a maximum was fixed for all the principal expenses connected with the purposes for which the Society was instituted.

	Florins
1. For buildings on each colonial farm	500
2. For house, furniture, and agricultural implements - -	100
3. For clothes to colonial family	150
4. For two cows - -	150
5. For seed of the first year, and the first cultivation of each farm	400
6. For advances in provisions during the first year - - -	50
7. For advances of a different kind	50
8. For flax and wool for manufacturing	200
9. For price of 3 <sup>1</sup> morgen of uncultivated land - - - -	100
<hr/>	
Total . . .	1700

The Prince of Orange became President of the Second Commission, and Prince Frederick, the second son of the King, accepted the office of President of the First.

The Society being now constituted, and its finances in such a condition as to inspire the public with confidence in its operations, the manor of Westerbeck-Sloot was bought at the price of 56,000 *fl.* This estate, which the Society had chosen for their first experiment, is situated on the confines of the provinces of Drenthe, Frise and Overysse, and at a short distance to the north-east of the small town of Steenwyk. The 600 morgen, of which it consists, were, with the exception of 50 or 60, covered only with a stunted heather and mossy earth. A more unpromising subject for the labours of the agriculturist could scarcely have been selected; but the very bleakness and desolation of its surface, and the comparatively feeble powers of production which existed in its soil, were the reasons why these philanthropists of Holland resolved to select it for their first attempt. It was justly supposed that, if the ex-

periment could succeed in such unfavourable circumstances, and under the unskilful superintendence connected with every commencement, no doubt could exist regarding the success which would attend the Society in all their other efforts.

The 50 or 60 morgen already cultivated, were let to tenants; and 150 morgen of the waste and desert heath were set apart for the establishment of the first colony, which was called Fredericks-Oord, from the prince Frederick, who had so nobly undertaken to preside over their philanthropic exertions.

After deepening the river Aa, and making such roads as were sufficient to connect this wilderness with the adjacent country, a warehouse, a school, two manufacturing halls, and 52 farm-houses, were erected for the reception of 52 families of destitute poor, who took possession on the 1st November, 1818.

Every colonist was required, upon his arrival, to sign, and to promise to obey the following rules, relating to the internal regulation of the colony :—

1. The colonists must give immediate and implicit obedience to the commands of the director, and of the inferior officers placed over them by the Society. These commands relate to their labour, and to the maintenance of tranquillity and good order. Their general duties are prescribed in the following enactments.

2. Every kind of insolence towards the director, the sub-director, the overseers, and instructors, is strictly prohibited.

3. The furnishings made by the Society to the colonists, such as clothing, furniture, tools, &c. may become their own property by gradually paying the value. Of the land itself, dwelling-house, and barn, the colonists have only the use. The property of these remains vested in the Society.

4. All the work is at first divided into tasks ; and each colonist is obliged to finish his task properly and completely within the space of time fixed for that purpose. He who neglects his task, or only performs it in part, loses a proportion of his wages.

5. At the time for commencing labour, each colonist must be at the appointed place ; and, whoever is late, loses a proportion of his wages, even although he should finish his task in the course of the day.

6. Every colonist is responsible for the materials and tools destroyed or injured by his act or negligence ; and the amount of the damage is retained from his wages.

7. The colonist who has finished his task, and behaved in other respects well, receives a card ; and, by presenting it, his portion of food and wages is delivered to him. Without this card, no colonist either receives provisions or money.

8. Every colonist is bound—to conduct himself in a becoming and decent manner,—to refrain from all insults, slanders, or oaths, capable of offending his neighbours—and, in general, to do nothing which he does not wish another should do to him. The mothers and fathers are, in these respects, responsible for the conduct of their children, and must set an upright and industrious example. The children must be obedient

to their parents, and kind and obliging to all others.

9. Every thing capable of offending modesty, in dress, conversation, or conduct, is rigorously prohibited.

10. Every colonist is obliged, according to the precepts of his persuasion, to attend the public worship of God, on the Sundays, and on other days of devotion. The colonists are bound also to allow themselves and their children to receive religious instruction. The feasts and ceremonies of the Jews are regulated by a separate order.

11. The severest prohibitions exist against every attempt to restrain the exercise of any kind of religious ordinance. It is also unlawful to offer any colonist the least annoyance upon the subject of his faith.

12. The colonists must always be neatly dressed, and personally clean. None are allowed to commence work who are found to be disregarding this rule. The fathers and mothers must take the greatest pains to remove all vermin from themselves and their children. Each



household is provided with every thing requisite for maintaining personal cleanliness.

13. Every week the clothes and furniture of the colonists are inspected. They must always be kept clean, and in good order.

14. Every colonist who has lost or deteriorated by negligence, his clothes, furniture, or tools, is responsible for the damage ; which must be replaced by forfeiting a part of his wages.

15. The clothes and furniture are at first provided by the Society ; but afterwards each colonist must procure them for himself. The expense of these furnishings must be replaced to the Society, by the labour of the families to whom they are made.

16. Until the land produces enough for the support of the colonists, the Society provides them with food, and distributes the requisite quantity to them each day.

17. The food consists of rye-bread, and of nourishing and well-prepared dishes, as enumerated in the diet table. The bread is delivered to the colonist at three-fourths of a stiver, and

the cooked food at half a stiver the pound, or one and a half stiver the portion. Each colonist may take as many portions as he can pay for from his wages.

18. In cases where the colonist cannot win his own support, the Society distributes food daily ; to the full grown, three-pounds of cooked food, and one-pound of bread ; to the youths between 12 and 16, two-pounds of cooked food, and two-thirds of a pound of bread ; and to the children under nine years, one-pound of cooked food, and one-half pound of bread. The family receives besides one-pound of butter per week.

19. As soon as a family gains 4 *fl.* a-week, they may commence the preparation of their own food ; and, for that purpose, the Society furnishes them with the necessary utensils at the cheapest possible rate. But they have also the choice of purchasing them elsewhere.

20. The colonist, in order to have a right to his wages, must not merely finish his task, but must have performed it within the appointed time, and with the requisite degree of perfection. A failure in any of these conditions produces the

loss of a part of the wages. In no case is the retention from the wages allowed to be less than one-twentieth, or more than one half of the sum earned during the week. Within these limits, the decision is left to the Court of Inspection.

21. Besides the wages in money and food, the Society distributes to those who are distinguished by their industry and good conduct, three kinds of honorary distinction, consisting of medals of copper, silver, and gold. The copper medal is the reward of application to labour, accompanied with good conduct; it confers the right of leaving the colony, on Sundays and festivals, without asking permission. The silver medal is the recompense of those who, by their industry, provide for their own support; it bestows the right of going beyond the bounds of the colony daily, except during the working hours. The gold medal is presented to the colonist who has already obtained the silver one, as soon as he has raised the produce of his land and his cattle to the amount of an annual revenue of 250 *fl.* This distinction frees the colonist from all the particular rules of the colony. He is

distinguished from an ordinary tenant only by certain conditions imposed on him in his lease.

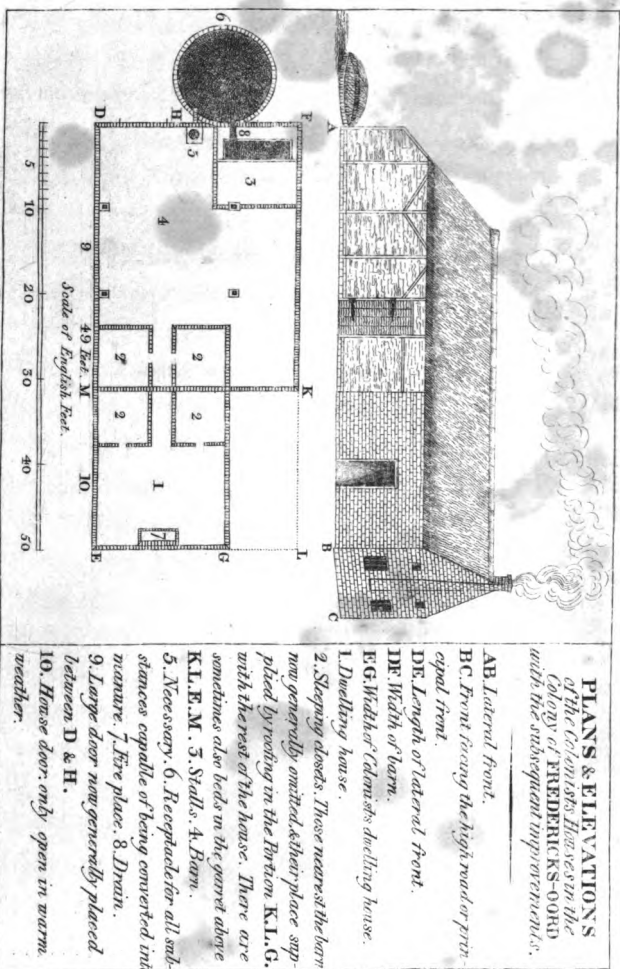
22. It is the duty of the Permanent Commission, by the advice of the director of the colony, to distribute the medals ; and they are always accompanied by a written statement of the merit of the receiver, and of the prerogatives attached to each of these marks of distinction.

23. As each of these medals are won by good conduct, so they are lost by bad ; and the colonist who does not maintain a behaviour worthy of the honour which has been conferred upon him, is stripped of it by the Permanent Commission. The director has the power of depriving the colonist of wearing the medal during fifteen days ; and, during that period, the individual upon whom the interdict has been laid, cannot leave the boundaries of the colony without a permission in writing delivered to him by the director.

24. Every fifteen days the medals are distributed, with the greatest solemnity, to the meritorious, or taken from the undeserving.

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The houses, built by the Society, are calculated for the reception of six or eight individuals, including children among that number. Each of these households forms a family, and is under the inspection of the parents, or some other person occupying that situation. The houses are small but commodious, and the barn is attached to them. At first the houses only were built of brick, and the whole roofs were thatched with straw. It has been found, however, to be more economical always to use brick in the walls, and tiles on the roofs. Some alterations have also been made upon the sleeping closets and the position of the large door, which is now generally placed on the side opposite to the principal front. This arrangement is found to be more convenient, more conducive to warmth, and bearing a greater resemblance to the general form of farm-steadings in the adjacent country. The large door is the only one which is used during the winter and cold weather; the small door at the side, by which the dwelling-house communicates directly with the open air, is seldom used excepting in summer. The different alterations which have been made





on the original houses are shown in the annexed design.

Besides the 500 *fl.* expended in building, the Society is also at the expense of cultivating the land, and sowing the first crop. The labour employed for this purpose is that of the colonists themselves, and they are paid at the same rate with similar workmen in other parts of the country. The maximum granted for the expense of original cultivation has been already stated to be 400 *fl.*, and these are transferred to the colonists themselves, as the wages of their labour.

Let us now follow the colonist in his career as a farm-servant, and trace the progress by which the cultivation is effected. The land, hitherto subjected to the operations of the Society, consists of a surface of heath and moss-earth resting upon a substratum of sand. The moss varies from six inches to twelve or fifteen feet in thickness, and occasionally presents the appearance of a bog.

Where the sand is covered with a layer of moss of 10 or 12 inches thick, the first operation is to pare off the heath or coarse surface to the thickness of three or four inches. These turfs are



laid in heaps, and the ground is dug to the depth of eighteen inches, and the sand and turf well mixed together. Three-fourths of the turf, which have been pared from the surface, are now slowly consumed by means of a moderate heat, and as much as possible without flame. The ashes are spread over the soil, immediately before the sowing of the seed, and are equally distributed over the surface, by means of a light harrow drawn by two men. The remaining fourth of the turf from the surface, is prepared as a compost, by mixing up the produce of a morgen of it with fifteen loads of fresh horse-dung, fifteen loads of cleanings of the roads, and twenty schepels of hot lime. These different ingredients are laid in beds, turned over after the second month, and so totally decomposed at the end of the third, as to form an excellent manure. All these operations are performed during the summer. In autumn the compost is laid upon the field, and the rye is sown in four different patches.

Twenty-one hundred roods, or three morgen and a half are attached to each house. The

first cultivation of these being finished, in the course of three years, as will be afterwards explained, and sown, say with rye, the following rotation has been frequently adopted, but cannot, of course, be laid down as a general rule in all circumstances.

## FARM.—FIRST YEAR.

100 Roods for Kitchen Garden.		House.		100 Roods for early Potatoes.			
No. 1.		No. 2.		No. 3.		No. 4.	
400 Roods green cut rye, followed by barley sown down.		400 Roods green cut rye, followed by spurry and turnips.		400 Roods green cut rye, followed by potatoes.		400 Roods reaped rye, followed by turnips.	
300 Roods for Fiorin.							

## FARM.—SECOND YEAR.

Garden.		House.		Early Potatoes.			
No. 1.		No. 2.		No. 3.		No. 4.	
Clover, &c. cut for stall feeding, and hay.		Reaped rye followed by a green crop.		Green cut rye followed by barley sown down.		Potatoes.	
300 Roods for Fiorin.							

## FARM.—THIRD YEAR.

Garden.		House.	Early Potatoes.
No. 1. Reaped rye, followed by green crop.	No. 2. Potatoes.	No. 3. Clover, &c. cut for stall feed- ing, and hay.	No. 4. Green cut rye, followed by barley sown down
300 Roods Fiorin.			

## FARM.—FOURTH YEAR.

Garden.		House.	Early Potatoes.
No. 1. Potatoes.	No. 2. Green cut rye, followed by barley sown down.	No. 3. Reaped rye, followed by a green crop.	No. 4. Clover, &c. cut for stall feed- ing, and hay.
300 Roods Fiorin.			

Every year the colonist thus has a crop of potatoes on one lot; of winter rye, green cut in spring, and reaped barley on another lot; of early ripe winter rye and turnips, spurry, or other green crop on a third lot; of clover, hay, early potatoes, and kitchen vegetables on fourth lot. No. 1, in

the course of the four rotations, yields—1st year, green cut rye, and reaped barley ; 2d year, cut grass or hay ; 3d year, early reaped rye, and a green crop ; 4th year, potatoes, and afterwards sown with rye for the purpose of being cut green early the next spring. The same description, with a slight variation, will apply to all the other divisions.

When the rye of the first sowing is in flower, it is cut, and the ground immediately sown with barley for reaping, and with clover and rye-grass, as food for the cattle in the stalls, in the following year.

The rye of the second sowing is also mowed, when green, and used gradually as green food. After the cattle have consumed it, the ground is immediately sown with spurry and turnips. The third sowing is also cut at the end of April, and potatoes are planted. After the potatoes are taken up, winter rye is sown in autumn. The fourth sowing is reaped, and afterwards turnips sown. The portion set apart for fiorin, is prepared in the same manner with those already mentioned ; only it is sown as soon as possible, and carefully wed. The fiorin has

been found to succeed perfectly, and has produced from 6000 to 12,000 lbs. weight of excellent hay from half a morgen. In the event of its failure, however, it is easily replaced by other esculent roots, for nourishment to the cattle during winter.

The gardens are cultivated in a similar manner, and are divided into two equal portions, one for early potatoes, and one for kitchen vegetables.

When the sand, as frequently happens, is covered with peat to the depth of three or four feet, the first operation is to cut from the surface a turf of a foot in thickness. This is dried and burnt in heaps in the same manner, as has been already described. The remainder of the peat is then dug ; and, at regular distances, trenches are cut of sufficient depth to reach the sand. From the bottom of these trenches a quantity of sand is thrown up, sufficient to cover the whole surface intended for cultivation, to the depth of five or six inches. This portion of sand is then well mixed with the peat-earth and the ashes ; and the whole dunged with a

compost, of which hot lime is the principal ingredient. By this process, a soil is formed of extraordinary fertility.

When the stratum of moss is deeper than three feet, it is used as fuel, in the brick and lime kilns, and in the colonists' houses.

Every family receives two cows, which cost the Society at a maximum 150 *fl.* To replace this sum and loss from casualties, the family must pay 4 stivers a-week, or 10 *fl.* *per annum*, for the use of the two cows, and also a certain proportion of the price of the calves.

Six horses, with the necessary waggons, were also kept by the Society; and the use of these was charged to the colonists at certain rates, and under certain regulations. They were never employed, however, except for the purposes of leading out the manure, and carrying home the crops and fuel.

Extraordinary care was taken to collect abundance of manure; and the methods adopted for that purpose are well worthy the attention of even the most experienced agriculturist. Without a constant supply of this essential article, it

is obvious that the productive powers of the soil, under the severe cropping requisite for the maintenance of the colonists, would be soon exhausted, and desolation speedily resume her old domain. The manure principally used in the colonies are composts, consisting of a mossy-turf, cow and sheep-dung, and the refuse of the house. The details on this subject will be afterwards given.

By these means, a family are enabled to procure for their three and a half morgen of land, sufficient manure to sustain the productiveness of the soil in full vigour. A large quantity of liquid manure is also prepared, and applied exclusively to the potato, clover, and flax beds.

In addition to the farm labours of the colonist, it was the object of the Society to enable the young and the weak to earn their subsistence, by such kinds of work as are best adapted to their feeble and impaired powers. With this view, two houses were erected, where the preparing of flax and wool, spinning, knitting, &c. were taught. Colonists were also allowed to spin the flax, and knit the stockings, &c. at home ; but these occupations were always kept in proper

subordination to the principal object of the colonist's life : which is, to devote his powers to the cultivation of the soil.

It has been already stated, that the total expense of settling a family, consisting of seven or eight individuals, amounts to 1700 *fl.* ; and experience has shown, that the three and a half morgen, upon which seven or eight individuals are thus established, is not merely sufficient for their support, but enables them to accumulate considerable wealth. Three families, consisting of about twenty persons, are thus settled at an outlay, on the part of the Society, of only 5100 *fl.* ; and the whole of that sum, and a great deal more, as will be afterwards shown, is repaid in the course of sixteen years. The cultivated land, houses, &c. then remain a clear and unincumbered property for the relief of the poor of future ages.

The following table \* will show exactly the amount of the winnings of the fifty-two families, who formed the first experiment at Frederiks-Oord, in the course of one year.

\* See the work entitled "De la Colonie de Frederiks-Oord," &c. par le Baron de Keverberg, 8vo. Gand. 1821.



Places from which the Colonists came.	Names of Colonists.	Number of individuals in each family.	Annual Winning.	Remarks.
Medemblik	Alblas	6	fl. 232 4 5	
Hoorn	Arends	8	262 6 14	
Amsterdam	Bosch	6	525 8 14	
Assen	Berends	6	435 1 8	
Sloten	Bransma	7	273 17 10	
Gorinchem	Biemans	8	335 10 5	
Amsterdam	Baade	3	374 2 4	
Enkhuizen	Bult	6	301 18 12	Butcher.
	Bay	4	86 15 0	Shoemaker,
Maass Lins	Brenkel	8	438 17 4	working on
Goes	Beurks	6	398 18 6	his own ac-
Oosterbeek	Bodestaf	8	394 8 0	count, and
Amsterdam	Cohen	8	273 11 8	only since the
Delft	Dybskorn	7	199 7 2	month of
Rotterdam	Gerards	7	453 7 2	May in the
Kampen	Gerrits	8	319 3 15	colonies.
Bolsward	Gervitsma	6	292 13 2	
Weesp	Hogenbrink	7	310 18 10	
Vlaardin-				
gen	Hontman	7	191 4 8	Broke his
Sneek	Haan (De)	4	208 7 0	arm, and was
Leyden	Heiden (Van-			a long time
	der)	7	496 2 0	ill.
Edam	Haaften (Van)	6	359 4 8	
Amsterdam	Hoofien (Van)	7	315 11 15	
Groningen	Harmeling	8	367 18 8	
Amersfoort	Hopman	7	161 11 6	Arrived in
Wagenin-				the colony
gen	Jansen	6	323 18 2	after May.
Steenwyk	Janz	5	176 2 6	Arrived in
Almelo	Krabhuis	4	295 6 4	the colony
Harderwyk	Klaver	6	383 3 11	after May.
Middleburg	Koppejan	6	402 0 10	
Dordrecht	Kranendonk	6	353 11 13	
Utrecht	Kruyft (De)	7	190 9 4	

## GAINS OF COLONISTS.

29

Places from which the Colonists came.	Names of Colonists.	Number of individuals in each family.	Annual Winning.	Remarks.
Nymegen	Lucassen	8	438 0 9	The husband died.
Arnhem	Molewyk	9	318 16 4	
S'Gravenhage	Muller	7	427 19 12	
Tholen	Meder	6	415 10 8	
Haarlem	Molenaar	6	362 11 14	
Harlingen	Nak	6	378 14 10	
Zwolle	Ommen (Van)	4	258 11 4	
Wyk-by-Dnurstede	Rhee (Van)	5	207 18 12	
Axel	Ruyter (De)	10	461 13 8	
S'Gravenhage	Rausch	7	374 16 6	
Vlissingen	Rikmond	7	349 0 5	
S'Gravenhage	Smetten (Ter)	5	199 18 6	
Alkmaar	Tymes	6	281 17 0	
Leeuwarden	Vries (De)	7	355 17 14	
Groote-Broek	Visser	7	320 4 8	
Gouda	Vergeer (Widow)	5	302 13 14	
Tiel	Vos (De)	5	214 11 2	
Zaandam	Weender	6	216 11 6	
Broek in Waterland	Westerveld	7	383 11 6	
Geertruidenberg	Wals	8	446 16 13	
		Total fl.	16,863 18 5	

c 3

There also arose from subjects cultivated for the general benefit,

		Florins.		
200 schepels of oats	-	220	0	0
20 ditto of barley	-	30	0	0
420 ditto of rye	-	840	0	0
Straw	-	200	0	0
		<hr/>		
Total	-	1290	0	0
Wages, &c. as above	-	16,863	18	5
		<hr/>		
Total	-	18,153	18	5

Or an average of fl. 349 2 4 for each family.

These statements of the profits and revenues only include the agricultural and manufacturing work. From the short period that the colony had existed, it was impossible to state either the revenue from cows, or the sum which each colonist had won by working for another, or the quantity of turf which each colonist had prepared on his own account, or the produce of the gardens. But, omitting these, the income amounted to about 28l. Sterling per family, which is certainly not much below the average annual

profits of the ordinary peasantry-households of Scotland.

The difference observable between the winnings of some of these families, arose from the extremely debilitated physical powers of the individuals composing them, and from the number of children with which the fathers and mothers were burdened. The prospects of success, however, which these profits held out, were of the most brilliant and encouraging nature, and more than sufficient to satisfy the Society, and every friend to humanity, of the immense benefit which might be derived from the extension and generalization of the system.

These animating views were still farther confirmed, by the reports of two Special Committees, appointed by the General Commission, to inquire into the physical and moral condition of the experimental colony at Frederiks-Oord, and into the state of the finances of the Society.

Their inquiries were concluded on the 28th October, 1819, and proved most satisfactorily the complete success which had attended the Society's benevolent exertions. The physical condi-

tion of the colony surprised every beholder. The 150 morgen had been enclosed and cultivated. About 60 separate buildings had been erected within this space. These were placed on four lines, and at regular distances, and consisted of a school,—a milk-house,—a manufacturing shop,—the dwelling houses of the officers of the Society, and those of the colonists. Besides the cultivation of the lands already settled, there were also above an hundred morgen on the other side of the great road, almost ready for the reception of fifty additional families, and the half of the houses were already constructed.

The moral and physical condition of the colonists themselves, was still more astonishing. The filthy, emaciated, and degraded town-mendicants, resembled the healthy peasantry, and seemed proud of having been taught to earn their subsistence by the cultivation of the ground. By a labour at first gentle, but gradually increasing with their strength, most of the families had earned five or six florins a-week. Personal and domestic cleanliness existed everywhere. The anxiety, which their previous uncertain fate

had deeply depicted on their countenances, had now given place to the smiles of contentment. Their minds were no longer tortured by looking forward to the future.

But if such was the condition of the full-grown colonist, what language can adequately describe the improvement which the children had undergone. The irregularities and vices of the parents formerly promoted the degradation of the children ; but now the virtuous example of the elders afforded the strongest guarantee for the proper education of the offspring. The influence of parental authority strengthened the instruction given to the young in the elements of knowledge and religion. The advantages produced by the Society's school upon their minds and moral principles, were no less apparent than the astonishing effects which wholesome air and food had produced upon their bodies. Every thing proved, that the means had at length been discovered of ameliorating the condition of the starving population of the towns,—of promoting their intellectual and moral civilization,—and of awakening in their minds

that feeling of self-estimation, by which they are excited to raise themselves from that state of degradation into which they are so universally plunged.

The finances of the Society were found also to be highly prosperous. The Society now contained 21,187 members. There were 669 sub, or local commissions distributed over the kingdom, and 98 of greater importance in the chief towns.

The great evil of making charitable institutions too comfortable, and thus holding out an incentive to carelessness and improvidence, had been carefully avoided at Frederiks-Oord. The proportions of land and labour, by which the industrious could earn their support, had been accurately ascertained; the internal accommodation of the houses and the diet, were sufficient, in ordinary cases, to produce moderate comfort, and to sustain animal strength. The colonist, by labour, might speedily improve his condition, but, by idleness, he might, with equal facility, relapse. Extraordinary industry procured extraordinary comforts; but extreme degrees of sloth

and turbulence, as we shall afterwards find, removed the guilty to a greater degree of restraint and correction.

The only objects for poor colonies are those, who, although of sound body and mind, are unable to win their own support, and are either already a burden upon their parishes, or rapidly descending to that woful condition. The withdrawal of these from society removes a grievous tax, and a very infective species of moral pestilence. The wages of the remaining industrious members of the community become more adequate for their support ; and the productive industry of a district can never be impaired by the removal of those who have ceased to contribute any thing to its amount. It should never be forgotten, also, that a considerable proportion of those receiving parochial aid, consists of the careless and the unruly, who never could be useful to their country, if left to their own unaided exertions, but who may be gradually turned from the folly of their ways, and taught the value of industry, by being made to taste the comforts which it alone can procure.



Thus a family, consisting of six or seven members, are enabled and obliged, after their settlement in the colonies, to earn their subsistence by their own industry. After a certain period of discipline and instruction, but not before sufficient proof has been given of permanent amelioration of character, the land is let to the family at a fixed rent ; and the colonists are thus gradually prepared to take the entire management of their own affairs, as in ordinary life. While the immovable property always remains vested in the Society, the colonists have the power of becoming the proprietors of all the other furnishings, and of carrying these, as their property, away with them when they leave the colony.

When the children of the colonist have reached their sixteenth or eighteenth year, the choice of a profession, the means of advancing it, or their continuance in the colony, are settled, after due deliberation, by the parents themselves, in conjunction with the superior officers of the institution.

In founding a colony, it is necessary that the annual burdens on the foundation property should

be as light as possible. The extent of the voluntary subscriptions will have the greatest effect in producing that desirable result ; but the Government of the Netherlands have still farther diminished these responsibilities, by exempting the whole colonial property from taxation, during a considerable period of years.

Another rule, in the establishment of poor colonies, relates to the classification of the colonists according to their physical strength. Three classes are distinguished in the Dutch colonies ;—the strong, the intermediates, and the weak ; or those capable of undergoing full labour, half labour, and quarter labour. We shall afterwards see that, in some of the colonies, it has been found necessary to subdivide these classes. The measure of work, even for the first of these, or the strong men, must be at the beginning trifling, but may gradually increase with the progressive strength which a country life and a comparatively comfortable mode of living, have been universally found to create. We shall afterwards return to this subject, when

speaking of the instructions under which the division and ward-masters are required to proceed. At present it may be sufficient to mention, that the first order are occupied with the cultivation of the land; the second with the rearing of kitchen vegetables and manufacturing labour; and the third with the lightest species of spinning, &c. with the destruction of weeds, and the easiest work in the gardens. Regularly the first species of labour belongs to the men; the second to the women; and the third to the children and old men. A considerable quantity of occupation is furnished to the two last classes, by spinning, knitting, weaving, &c.—Every want of the colony ought to be furnished by the colony itself; but the excess of production, beyond the wants of the colony, ought to be limited to agricultural produce. An exportation from the colony, of manufactured articles, would increase the supply, and lower wages; and thus the colonies would be defeating their own purpose—the extirpation of mendicity. By simply combining, however, the strength of the

beggar with the productive powers of the waste heath, and by only manufacturing what the colonists themselves can buy and consume, a result is produced, by which the useless members are removed from society, and converted into a source of internal wealth and prosperity.

It has been found to contribute to the preservation of discipline, and to the removal of all absurd expenses in dressing, to clothe the colonists in one uniform manner, and to number the houses. For the same reason, each colony is bounded by a wall or ditch ; and beyond these boundaries no colonist is allowed to pass, except under the conditions already mentioned. The degraded condition of the mendicants requires strict superintendence regarding cleanliness, industry, and order. Small violations of the latter are punished by the chief resident officer of the Society alone ; but greater offences are sent for trial to a board, composed of the resident members of the administration of the colony, and of two heads of families from the colonists themselves. Graver delicts, subject the offender to be degraded to an inferior colony, where

the discipline is stricter, or to punishment by the ordinary tribunals of the country.

Besides the education and instruction of the colonists, every proper care is taken of the sick, by medical men appointed for that purpose. Twenty-four hours off work has been fixed upon as the ordinary time, after which the patient must be removed to the hospital. This rule has been found very useful in arresting the progress of infection, and the no less dangerous custom of feigning sickness.

In addition to the printed statement of his duties and obligations, which each head of a family receives, he is presented with a book, containing, upon one page, the whole expenses incurred by himself and those under his authority, and, upon another page, the whole winnings of the household for every week.

With the view of preventing accidents from the failure of crops, and of providing for a part of the expenses of the administration, school, hospital, &c., it was found adviseable to cultivate a piece of land for the common benefit, and to subject each father of a family to give three

day's work in the week for that purpose. For these three days, however, the colonist receives wages; and these furnish at once an increased guarantee to the Society for the colonist's repayment of his advances, and of his being in a condition to provide for his own support.

Perhaps, however, the most essential of all the fundamental principles in the management of a charity, whether depending entirely on public favour, or subsisting by the endowments of deceased benefactors, is the periodical investigation into its circumstances, and the openness and publicity of all its transactions. The truth of this remark has been fully admitted and acted upon in the poor colonies of Holland. At the end of every quarter, a report is prepared of the general condition of the colony; and, in the first quarter of each succeeding year, a full statement is made up of the total revenue of the colony, and of every article of its expenditure. All these are published in a newspaper,\* which

\* This periodical is called the "Star," and is now in the eighth or ninth year of its publication. It is written in Dutch, and contains a great variety of statistical details regarding Holland.

the Society established for the purpose of keeping up a constant intercourse between the public and their proceedings. Besides these reports, that journal is devoted to the discussion of every question concerning either the principles of the Society or their transactions. Every fair opponent of their schemes, finds in it the means of publishing his opinions; and every important suggestion is transmitted through its columns to those who will thoroughly sift and expose its errors or its usefulness. The profits arising from the sale of this journal alone, amounted to 33,000*£*. during the first year.

The value of the discovery which the Society had made, being now duly appreciated, and all doubt removed concerning the practicability of its schemes, by the complete success of the first experiment, it was resolved to give the Society's efforts a broader base, and to extend its influence over the country, as the best method of eradicating or alleviating a great national evil.

As the means of preparing our readers for a distinct comprehension of the now extended system of the Society, and their objects and

mode of executing them, we have detailed the origin and progress of the first grand philanthropic effort at Frederiks-Oord, and have stated the principles upon which these institutions ought to rest. The same order shall now be followed in recounting the extension which the poor colonies have, subsequently, with success, received, and in recording the triumphs of the soundest and most discerning philanthropy.

The following proposal was made by the Society, on 31st August, 1819, to the administrators of the poor funds and orphan hospitals over the country. The Society declared its willingness, *1stly*, To undertake the maintenance and instruction of six poor orphan or foundling children, and of two married and aged individuals, without children, or of a single woman, to whose care these orphans might be intrusted, for the sum of 60 *fl.* annually, each child. *2dly*, To establish, at the same time, gratis, two families of poor, forming together a total of twelve additional persons; and, *3dly*, To guarantee to the administrators, who contracted with them, the free right for ever, of sending to



the colonies, and of having alimented there, gratis, three families, as soon as the Society should have entirely discharged the debt contracted by their original establishment.

This proposal was, at the same time, accompanied with a statement of the cause which enabled the Society to contract such extensive obligations for a sum so much below what could have been expected. Let us suppose, for the sake of illustration, that a parish in Amsterdam sent to the colonies six orphan children, under the protection of a careful man and woman, as nurses, and twelve poor persons. The orphans formed one family, and the other twelve were separated into two. Each of these three families occupied a house, &c. like those already described, and three and one-half morgen of land. The expenses incurred by the Society in these three operations, amount, as may be recollected, to 5100*fl.*; and it would be folly in the Society to undertake the obligation, or in the parish to accept the Society's offer, if these three families could not repay the expenses incurred in their settlement. The greater part of the

time of the orphans being spent in their education, and in teaching them field or manufacturing labour, and their animal strength not being adequate for constant toil, the two families of beggars, admitted along with them into the colony, are employed in assisting them in the cultivation of their farm. For that labour, eight stivers per day in winter, 10 in spring and autumn, and 12 in summer, are allowed. Each of the two households must devote a day and a half, per week, to assist the orphans; and thus they win together annually from 70 *fl.* to 75 *fl.* Twenty-five florins are also won by assisting the orphans in the management of their cattle, and performing sundry other menial services which children require. These sums enable the two families to pay to the Society the 50 *fl.* of rent for each of their farms. The crop also, thus sown on the farm of the orphans, secures the 50 *fl.* for rent of that farm. Since the two families of beggars earn 100 *fl.* for assisting the orphans, and pay 50 *fl.* of rent each, both sums may be left out of the calculation, as neutralizing each other. The total annual sum paid by these

three families to the Society will be afterwards better understood ; but, their contributions, when taken *at the lowest*, may be at present stated as follows :

	Florins.
Rent of six cows at the rate of two	
to each family - -	30 0 0
Annual board of six orphans	360 0 0
Rent of farm occupied by orphans	50 0 0
Annual revenue of the Society from	
these three farms - -	440 0 0

The 8th article in the list of the principal expenses, already noticed (p. 8.), contains an allowance of 200 *fl.* for manufacturing work executed by each family during the first twelve-months after their arrival. The articles produced by these wages are placed in the colonial warehouse, and resold to other colonists at an advance of four per cent. on the price. The 600 *fl.* won by the three families, in this manner, have been considered, in the calculation, as replaced during the first year.

The repayment to the Society of the 5100*fl.*, expended on the settlement of these three families, is, therefore, effected from these sources in the course of sixteen years, thus :

		Flor. Cents.	Flor. Cents.
	Capital . . . . .	5100	0
1. YEAR.	Revenue . . . . .	440	0
	Produce of the wool and flax manufactured by the three fa- milies, and replaced to the So- ciety by being consumed in the colonies . . . . .	600	0
	Total . . . . .	1040	0
	Deduct interest on 5100 <i>fl.</i> at 5½ per cent . . . . .	280	50
	Remains . . . . .	759	50
	Capital at the end of the 1st year . . . . .	4,340	50
2. YEAR.	Revenue . . . . .	440	0
	Interest . . . . .	238	73
	Remains . . . . .	201	27
	Capital . . . . .	4,139	23
3. YEAR.	Revenue . . . . .	440	0
	Interest . . . . .	227	66
	Remains . . . . .	212	34
	Capital . . . . .	3,926	89

## REPAYMENT OF OUTLAY.

		Flor. Cents.	Flor. Cents.
4. YEAR.	Revenue	440 0	
	Interest	215 89	
		<hr/>	
	Remains		224 02
5. YEAR.	Capital		3,702 87
	Revenue	440 0	
	Interest	203 66	
		<hr/>	
6. YEAR.	Remains		236 34
	Capital		3,466 53
	Revenue	440 0	
	Interest	190 66	
7. YEAR.		<hr/>	
	Remains		249 34
	Capital		3,217 19
	Revenue	440 0	
8. YEAR.	Interest	176 95	
		<hr/>	
	Remains		263 05
	Capital		2,954 14
9. YEAR.	Revenue	440 0	
	Interest	162 48	
		<hr/>	
	Remains		277 52
	Capital		2,676 62
	Revenue	440 0	
	Interest	147 21	
		<hr/>	
	Remains		292 79
	Capital		2,383 83

# REPAYMENT OF OUTLAY.

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		Flor. Cents.	Flor. Cents.
10. YEAR.	Revenue . . . . .	440 0	
	Interest . . . . .	131 11	
	Remains . . . . .		308 89
11. YEAR.	Revenue . . . . .	440 0	
	Interest . . . . .	114 12	
	Remains . . . . .		325 88
12. YEAR.	Revenue . . . . .	440 0	
	Interest . . . . .	96 20	
	Remains . . . . .		343 80
13. YEAR.	Revenue . . . . .	440 0	
	Interest . . . . .	77 29	
	Remains . . . . .		362 71
14. YEAR.	Revenue . . . . .	440 0	
	Interest . . . . .	57 34	
	Remains . . . . .		382 66
15. YEAR.	Revenue . . . . .	440 0	
	Interest . . . . .	36 29	
	Remains . . . . .		403 71
	Capital . . . . .		256 18

D

		Flor. Cents.	Flor. Cents.
16. YEAR.	Revenue . . . . .	440 0	
	Interest . . . . .	14 09	
		<hr/>	
	Remains . . . . .		425 91
			<hr/>
	Which gives a balance in favour of the Society from every division of three families . . . . .		169 73

But if the Society, and consequently their creditors, be thus assured of reimbursement of principal and interest in 16 years, may not the administrators of the funds of the poor entertain doubts of the possibility of maintaining these twenty individuals thus sent to the wilderness. The groundless nature of such alarms may be easily shown.

The completely cultivated farms of three and a half morgen may be worth 525 *fl.* annually, at the minimum stated by General Van Den Bosch, of 150 *fl.* per morgen. The maximum produce of similar land in the district, is 300 *fl.* per morgen. Each family are also enabled to win by field-labour 100 *fl.*, and by manufacturing, &c. 100 *fl.* The gross minimum revenue of each family, after the full cultivation of their farm, may be

therefore stated at 725 *fl.* The 5100 *fl.* thus invested, yields an annual return of 2175 *fl.* or 42½ per cent. which allows 82 *fl.* 16 stivers to each, and is far more than sufficient for the support of twenty persons under the colonial system. From this, however, must be deducted :

For the expenses of seed, &c. at the		Florins.
rate of 25 <i>fl.</i> per morgen, say	-	88
Rent	-	50
Rent of two cows	-	10
Administration fund	-	25
Total	-	<hr/> 173

This sum being deducted from the 725 *fl.* there remains, as nett income, 552 *fl.* for the support, clothing, and paying the debts of the family.

This nett income of 552 *fl.* is likewise burdened with a debt due by the family to the Society for advances in clothes, victuals, money, and raw material for the occupation of the women and children in spinning, and this debt should amount to only 700 *fl.* The repay-



ment of these advances may be made gradually ; and, it is remarkable, that the colonists have proceeded, in the liquidation of their debt, much quicker than could have been anticipated. The capital, which the Society itself borrows, is only required to be repaid in the course of sixteen years ; and the Society, therefore, ought to be content if their debtors repay them that sum within the same time ; but it is worthy of notice, and may be reckoned among the best proofs of the excellence of the system, that the old colonists had, without any difficulty, liquidated one-fifth of their debts to the Society before the month of July 1821 : and thus their whole debts would be discharged in less than 14 years.

The nett income of each family of 552 *fl.*, as already mentioned, is taken extremely low ; but, in calculations of such importance, it is essential to keep within the limits of certainty. We have already seen, that the nett income of the fifty-two families, composing the experimental colony, amounted only to 349 *fl.* 2 stivers, or 10 cents.

It must, however, be remembered, that the income of 552 *fl.* does not exist before the farm be fully cultivated, which seldom happens before the third year after the colonist's arrival, and that the average income of 349 *fl.* 10 cents. was won in extremely unfavourable circumstances. It included neither the annual profit of two cows, which is generally rated at 100 *fl.*, nor the wages which each colonist had won by work done off his own farm, nor the quantity of turf which each colonist had prepared, nor the product of the gardens, generally stated at 25 *fl.* annually.

From the 552 *fl.* of income, there must be also deducted what is annually necessary for the support, clothing, and payment of the debts of the family. The details of these expenses shall be afterwards given. At present it may suffice to state, that similar households in the district expend, on the two first branches, from 250 *fl.* to 300 *fl.* annually. This leaves to the family a nett surplus of 252 *fl.* annually, for the payment of their debts, &c.

Every child must win, either by field, manu-

facturing, or household labour, a certain sum per week, in proportion to his strength, for the profit of the family ; and, to prevent oppression from the heads of the families towards the children, the duties to be required of them are all specified in a printed table hung up in the house. The regulations, regarding the work of the orphan children, will be afterwards noticed ; but the children of the colonists are allowed 1-8th of their earnings during the first year, and afterwards 1-16th ; the other 16th being placed in the savings-bank, where it is allowed to accumulate, as a fund for their use when they arrive at majority.

The population of the Netherlands amounted, in 1820, to five and a half millions, and had been increasing at the rate of 60,000 per annum. The number of poor receiving assistance at their own homes, is stated, in a report of that year, by the minister of the Home Department to the States, to be 573,179 ; and, in 1825, 703,000 ; which amounts in the former year to very nearly a ninth of the population, and in the

latter to 117 and a fraction, in every 1000. The increase observable, in 1825, is attributed to the greater care, with which the report was made up, and to the total prohibition of public begging in the kingdom, and not to the positive extension of poverty among the people. In a valuable work, composed by the Baron Keverberg, on the condition of the poor of East Flanders, one of the most populous provinces of the kingdom, we find them classed under the following heads :

1. Poor from old age	-	2881	
2. Poor from infirmity	-	7802	
3. Poor from particular misfor-			} 54,641
tunes	-	4,842	
4. <i>Poor from superabundance</i>			
<i>of children</i>	-	33,962	
5. Poor from want of work		15,837	
6. Poor from bad behaviour		3,100	
Total	-	68,424	

There exists no classification of this kind for the poor of the whole kingdom ; but, as the Baron was governor of the province of East

Flanders, when he wrote his work, and founded his statements on authentic reports and individual inquiries, concerning nearly 70,000 poor, we may, in the absence of better evidence, follow the Baron in applying the same proportions to the poor of the rest of the kingdom.

For the convenience of calculation, let the whole poor, who were assisted at their houses in 1819, be stated at 600,000, instead of 573,179, and the following classification may be considered to *approximate*, in some degree, to a true view of their condition :—

Poor of the First Class	32,000	
Second	64,000	
Third	44,000	} 474,000
<i>Fourth</i>	290,000	
Fifth	140,000	
Sixth	30,000	
<hr/>		
Total	-	600,000

The fourth class here amounts to nearly the half of the whole, and if the families be averaged

at seven, we have about 42,000 as the number of families of which that class is composed. By reports of the Home Secretary to the States, it is ascertained that 4,920,193*fl.* were distributed in 1819, and 5,256,751*fl.* in 1825, in assisting the poor at their own homes. If, instead of administering this assistance, in the ordinary manner, two children had been sent to the poor colonies, from each of the 42,000 families, by the removal of these 84,000 children, the half of the poor immediately disappear,—for the fourth class is entirely relieved by this agreement with the Society. But the 84,000 children form 14,000 colonial families; and, besides these families, the Society takes gratuitously fourteen other persons, for each family of children, or 196,000 individuals, from the third and fifth classes of poor. Thus, by the annual payment of 5,040,000*fl.* during sixteen years, to the Society, the labour of 280,000 individuals is immediately recovered to the country, and all the classes of poor over the whole kingdom absorbed, excepting those who are poor from old age, bodily infirmity, or bad behaviour.

We have already remarked, that in 1819, very nearly the sum, and, in 1825, more than the sum, which the Society would require for that enormous undertaking, was spent in relieving the poor at their homes, without permanently improving their condition, and without any other effect than the degradation of the receivers—the increase of their numbers—and the perpetuity of a severe tax on the productive industry of the country. By the Society's plan, on the other hand, besides the immediate relief of the indigent, and the increase of the internal wealth of the country, ample funds are prepared for the purposes of genuine philanthropy towards the wretched of succeeding generations. After the lapse of the sixteen years, the payment of the 5,040,000 *fl.*, in the case already supposed, becomes unnecessary; and the Society assigns to the different presentees their right of gratuitous presentation to the different farms forever. It is only required that the patrons keep the houses, &c. in order, and that the colonial family, which they send, pay to the Society the very moderate rent of 50 *fl.*

By the labour of these 280,000 individuals, 42,000 farms are established, and 147,000 morgen of waste and unprofitable land brought into a state of high cultivation and productiveness. The gross sum which each of these farms will yield, at the end of the sixteen years, cannot be stated at less than 800 *fl.* each, or the nett produce at less than 500 *fl.* each. The desert and the beggars have thus been forced to yield 33,600,000 *fl.* annually to the internal wealth of the country, or 21,000,000 *fl.* to the necessities of the industrious poor of future generations.

The saving to the public from the Society's measures, may be made, if possible, more apparent by another example :—From a report made by the Home Secretary to the States, on the 9th March, 1818, the number of persons maintained in the hospitals, in the northern provinces of the kingdom, amounted to 21,000, and of these the greater part were orphans. The annual expense of their maintenance amounted to nearly 2,400,000 *fl.*, or about 114 *fl.* each person. Now, if 12,000 of these orphans were placed in the



colonies, they would form 2000 families, and these families would contain 16,000 persons ; because, as has been already mentioned, every family of six children requires two persons to take charge of them. By adding to this number the 24,000 poor, who occupy the 4000 farms, which the Society agreed to maintain for nothing, the public establishments of charity will be found to be freed from the burden of 40,000 poor ; and the subsistence of that enormous number is permanently secured by the small payment of 18*fl.* each, and that only during sixteen years. The orphans cost the hospitals 114*fl.* a-head ; and, by the Society maintaining them for 60*fl.*, upon this matter alone there is a saving of 54*fl.* for each child, or 648,000*fl.* on 12,000 children. The additional 28,000 poor, which the Society undertakes to maintain, could not have cost less to the different parishes than 25*fl.* a-head annually, or 150*fl.* per family. In this department there is also a saving of 700,000*fl.* ; and this sum, added to the former, shows an annual saving of 1,348 000*fl.*, which the different pa-

riches and charitable institutions effect by contracting with the Society. Nor is this all. At the expiration of the sixteen years, 12,000 poor children are secured forever in a gratuitous asylum and maintenance in the colonies. By these means there arises, after the lapse of the sixteen years, an additional annual saving of 1,368,000 *fl.* on the orphans, and of 700,000 *fl.* on the poor, making a total annual saving of 2,068,000 *fl.*

Besides these agreements of the Society, concerning the family of six children, with two nurses, at 360 *fl.* annually, and the two families of six members each, gratuitously, the Society offered to contract for the maintenance and instruction of poor families alone. The following are the articles of this very important and beneficial branch of their extended system.

Art. 1. There shall be furnished to the Permanent Commission, an exact account of the individuals composing the families to be sent to the colonies ; and the Commission shall have power to decide whether they be fit objects for admission.

2. The admission shall take place a month

after the conclusion of the loan, to be afterwards mentioned, and the Permanent Commission shall fix the day of reception.

3. The contracting parties, on the other hand, shall transport to the colony, at their own expense, the individuals who are to be admitted, and to send along with them—First, a certified statement of the family and christian names, of their sex, age, and places of birth. Second, a certificate stating the good conduct of the heads of the families from the proper magistrate in their last domicile. Third, a list of the articles of clothing and other effects belonging to the intended colonists ; and care must be taken that nothing be sent into the colonies which is not allowed to enter by the colonial rules. A duplicate of this list must be furnished to the Permanent Commission at the Hague.

4. When the heads of families come without such certificates of good conduct, the Permanent Commission shall not admit them without a declaration of their faults ; and these individuals may be placed in a separate colony and under stricter inspection.

5. From the date of the arrival of the colonist, the Society becomes bound to provide for his maintenance, and to furnish him with a complete suit of clothing, the necessary household furniture, &c.

6. All the children of the colonists shall be instructed in the ordinary branches of knowledge taught in the schools. The colonists are obliged to observe the external ceremonial of their religion on Sundays and festivals, and to allow themselves and their children to be instructed in the religion which they profess. The religious ordinances of the Jews are under a particular rule.

7. The colonists preserve their civil rights under the obligation of conforming to the rules of the Society ; and the Permanent Commission reserves the right of transporting to another colony those individuals convicted of immoral practices.

8. The managers of funds, or the individuals who send the colonists, preserve the right of exercising, or of causing to be exercised over them, the usual curatorial inspection.

9. The managers of poors' funds, or individuals, may always keep full the number of colonists mentioned in the first contract, under the following conditions :—No other children or grown up people shall be placed in the same family without the express consent of the father and mother of the family, and without the approbation of the Permanent Commission. The families, admitted into the colonies, who behave themselves properly and desire to stay, shall not be transferred or replaced by others, either during the continuance, or after the expiry of the first contract. No exchange of families, already admitted, shall take place without the consent of the Permanent Commission ; and that consent shall not be given unless the debt of the colonist, to be removed, be so far liquidated that the Society are repaid the whole expenses of the first outfit and furniture. When all the individuals, composing a family, die before the expiration of the first contract, *the Society allows them to be replaced without any indemnity.* In the event of the right of replacement opening by death,

or other cause, and the contracting parties, after being duly informed, allowing three months to elapse without the exercise of their right, the Society itself shall then have the privilege of filling up the vacant situations.

10. The Permanent Commission shall borrow the sum of — for the purpose of executing each agreement.

11. The parties contracting with the Society, on the other hand, shall become bound for the repayment of the principal sum, with interest, &c. ; but only by means of the fixed and annual contribution of 25*fl.* for each individual, payable half-yearly.

12. The said contribution shall not be diminished, even when the number of individuals, for whom it is paid, are not complete ; and, on the other hand, if the families of colonists, already received, are increased by the birth of children, after their arrival in the colony, the Society shall have no claim for any augmentation of the previously stipulated sum. Whenever the Society shall have repaid the sum borrowed, the parties contracting with the Society are freed

from all annual contribution for the colonists whom they have sent.

13. The Society shall furnish, each year, to the parties who have sent colonists, a state of the situation of the loan, showing what has been already paid of principal and interest.

14. As soon as full repayment is made, the Society shall deliver to the party, who sent the colonist, a deed transferring to him for ever the right of disposing of the buildings and lands ; and this as a perpetual feuar ; but under the burden of the individuals who occupy said house and lands, paying to the Society, annually, the sum of 50*fl.*, and paying the necessary expenses of repairs and government taxes.

15. Every contract requires, for its validity, to be homologated by the competent authority ; and security must also be given, to the satisfaction of the Society, for the punctual payment of the stipulated annual contribution. The Permanent Commission becomes bound on these terms to repay the sum borrowed in the space of sixteen years at latest, &c.

The contract, relative to the admission and maintenance of indigent families and of orphans, or poor and foundling children, nearly agrees with that just given for the poor families alone. Besides the difference of rate, it is only necessary to add, at Article 9, after the words "the Society allows them to be replaced without any indemnity," the following clause : "The complement of six orphans shall be, in the same manner, kept full, without any indemnity to the Society, when vacancies occur, by the colonist's majority or marriage, with consent before majority,—his voluntary enlistment in the army or navy, or his being summoned to join the national militia."

While these contracts, for the maintenance of the poor, were profitable to the parties who make them with the Society, it is obvious that they must also be advantageous to the Society itself. For each of these families, consisting of six individuals, 150 *fl.* are paid annually to the Society ; and, as these colonists are in the same condition with the others, and must make from their farms the same returns, the repayment of



the 1700 *fl.* of advance, which the settlement of each family costs, takes place much sooner; and thus these farms become, in a much shorter time than the others, at the free disposition of the contracting parties, under the conditions mentioned in Article 14.

In proportion as the colonies extended, by the operation of these new principles and contracts, the difficulties of the management increased, and the consequences of errors became more fatal. General Van Den Bosch, under whose patriarchal and disinterested care, as director of the colony of Frederiks-Oord, the colonial system had been commenced and matured, and of whose services it is impossible to speak in terms of sufficient praise, was not long in perceiving the dangers to which his beloved enterprise was exposed, and in applying a remedy adequate to the impending evil. The fruits of four years constant experience, the suggestions of a mind ever finding its chief joy in acts of philanthropy, have furnished the colonies themselves with the strongest guarantee for their permanency, and have opened to an anxious, and, we

trust, grateful public, that system of management by which continued success has attended all the undertakings of the Benevolent Society of Holland. It is now our pleasing duty to make our readers fully acquainted with the contents of the Manuel \*, published by the General in 1822, and which has continued, ever since, to furnish the working instructions for all similar institutions.

A director is placed over the whole of the colonies, and all persons residing in them, whether belonging to the Direction or colonists, are under his control. The whole management of colonial affairs is entrusted to him, under the superintendence of the *Permanent Commission*.

The colonies generally contain an hundred families each ; but some more and some less, according to the local circumstances. A sub-director is placed over every colony. He is entrusted with the execution of the orders of the

\* This work is written in Dutch, and is entitled, " Huishoudelijke Bepalingen voor de Vrije Koloniën volgens de jongste Besluiten der Permanente Kommissie der Maatschappij van Weldadigheid." 8vo. Amsterdam, 1822.

director, and is required to notice that all the rules of the Society be properly observed.

All persons belonging to the colony, over which the sub-director is placed, are submitted to his authority.

Each colony is divided into wards of twenty-four families; and over every ward a ward-master is placed. These are chosen, as much as possible, from the inferior officers of the army.

The ward itself contains two divisions, of twelve families each; and over every one of these a division-master is placed. These ought to be farmers, or persons acquainted with the rudiments of agriculture.

The ward-master is charged with the execution of the orders of the sub-director and of the Society's regulations, particularly those concerning the good order, cleanliness, and industry of the colonists within his ward.

The principal duties of a division-master consist in the instruction of the colonists in field-labour, and in superintending its proper execution within his division. The division-master

receives 10 stivers for every day he instructs the colonists, and may also rise, by good behaviour, to the highest situations.

The ward-master must excite the colonists to fulfil their duties by his example. He is personally responsible for every disorder and neglect of which the colonists within his ward are guilty. His office it is—to teach their duties to the ignorant—to reprimand the idle—to inform the sub-director of all who are behind in the fulfilment of their obligations—and to take particular care that the division-masters never act unbecomingly, or make an improper use of their authority.

Besides the officers already mentioned, a *book-keeper* is placed in every colony, in order to keep the accounts, both of the colony and of the colonists, in a clear and accurate manner.

An overseer of the manufacturing department is also placed in every colony. To him is assigned the superintendence of that branch of labour under the immediate orders of the director of manufactures. The colonists are to this overseer as labourers working for daily hire.

The sub-director points out the persons best fitted for being employed or instructed in manufacturing labour. The overseer of the manufacturers fixes the wages according to the *Regulations*, receives the fabricated articles, and makes up the lists of each individual's earnings. These states having been submitted to the sub-director for his inspection and approval, are placed in the weekly *credit accounts* of the colonists by the book-keeper.

The sub-director receives 365 *fl.* annually, besides free lodging; and, it may be said, in general, that the salaries afford an ample recompense for their exertions to all the functionaries. The promotion of every officer of the Society is also made to depend upon the strict fulfilment of duty. If the colony increases to a hundred or more families, the salary of the meritorious sub-director increases to 500 *fl.* He has also the prospect of being allowed to keep a shop for the convenience of the colonists, and that privilege may yield him an additional 300 or 500 *fl.* per annum.

But the shop being not so much intended for his advantage as for the benefit of the colonists, the gain of it must be considered more as an accidental, than a necessary part of his income. He is not allowed to sell any thing which is prohibited by the regulations, nor at a higher price than that permitted by the director. And, in order to remove every idea of the colonists being injured by any monopoly, there are in every colony, of a hundred families, at least two shops, where the colonists may purchase what they require. The privilege of keeping the second shop, may be granted, either to a colonist, ward-master, or stranger, as the director thinks proper. The Permanent Commission reserves also the right of shutting the shop of the sub-director in case of any abuse.

The meritorious sub-director may be promoted to the rank of deputy-director of the second class. He then receives a fixed salary of 1000 *fl.* per annum, and is charged with the superior direction of a division of from four to five colonies of 100 families each.

A deputy-director of the second class may,

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in like manner, and for the same reason, be promoted to the rank of deputy-director of the first class, with a salary of 1800 *fl.* He is then entrusted with the foundation of a new settlement.

To the ward-master is paid by the Society, weekly, for every household within his ward, living, by their own industry, and contracting no debts, four stivers, and for every family of orphans in the same condition, six stivers. The ward-master's income may thus, by good behaviour, increase to 5 or 6 *fl.* weekly, but decrease, by carelessness, to 3 or 4 *fl.* He also has free lodging, and his wife and children may take part in the manufacturing labour; and, according to their industry and number, earn 4 or 5 *fl.* a-week. The meritorious ward-master is allowed the second year, besides the above-mentioned sums, a weekly pay of 2 *fl.*, which is continued to him as long as the colonists of his ward perform all their duties. To the ward-master is likewise opened the view of being promoted, by further diligence and ability, to the rank of sub-director, and deputy-director, as above stated.

A deserving colonist may be promoted to the situation of division-master, and progressively to that of deputy-director.

The book-keeper receives 7 *fl.* weekly and free lodging, and may also be raised, on account of his diligence and industry, to the rank of deputy-director. The overseer of the manufacturing department may also arrive at the rank of deputy-director of manufactures. A bright and encouraging prospect is thus opened to the industry, virtue, and knowledge of all.

To prevent caprice in the infliction of punishment, a *Court of Inspection* is established in every colony. This court consists of the sub-director, two ward-masters, and two colonists. Every complaint against a colonist must be brought before them ; but of this we shall afterwards speak, when treating of the education of the colonists.

The ward-master receives the orders from the sub-director every night for the field labour, &c. of the following day. At six o'clock in summer, and at seven in winter, the bell rings. The colonists then rise, and perform the work requir-



ed in their houses, or near them ; and one hour after, at the second ringing, they assemble before the door of their ward-masters. The names are then called over, and the absent are marked down, and are deprived of a proportion of their wages.

Every division-master leads the colonists of his division to the farm shown him, and makes them perform the work pointed out to him by the ward-master. At first, this work chiefly consists in cutting turf on those farms which are covered with five or more inches of heath, and in digging. If the ground be only slightly covered with heath, the turf on the surface is dug and not burnt. This distinction is of great importance in practice, as the abuse of paring and burning may be very prejudicial.

In teaching to cut turf, the men are placed in a row, at about a rood apart, and lines are drawn on the right and left, to show each of them his limits. The instructor then handles the instrument, and points out the manner of cutting the turfs, and placing them in heaps. The first co-

lonist commences, while the rest look on ; and in the same manner all the others.

During the first eight days, none are tasked to any particular quantity of labour. Every colonist may rest as often as he pleases, but must stay in his place, and on the land, during the working hours. All labour is paid, at first, by the piece. Labour, by daily wages, only leads to idleness, and is to be avoided as much as possible. As soon as a colonist has obtained, or possesses the requisite knowledge in any kind of labour, he becomes overseer on his own farm, if any work is required to be done on it. He is then not allowed to labour with the others, but receives the same wages as if he did. By this plan, the colonists are also trained to superintend the operations of others.

For the turf-cutting, half a stiver is paid per rood ; and this labour is continued until the colonists have acquired the necessary expertness in it : that is, until they can pare from 24 to 30 roods daily. After the cutting of the turf, follows the digging of the ground ; and the instructions are given in that department as in

the former. The ground in general, is trenched at first to  $1\frac{1}{2}$  feet deep, and the colonists thus learn at once both digging and trenching. As soon as that kind of work is performed with ease and accuracy, the colonists proceed to trench the ground to the depth of two or three feet, where that labour is necessary, for the purpose of blending properly together the earth and mould of the soil. This operation is often learned very quickly, even by boys or young men. For digging a rood, 18 inches deep,  $1\frac{1}{4}$  stivers are paid.

A man properly instructed in this manner, may, after a month's practice, earn 10 or 12 stivers a-day, and a boy of twelve years old from 6 to 9 stivers a-day.

The ground, thus turfed and dug, is sometimes sown in the autumn, and sometimes in the following spring. Before the sowing, the turfs are burnt with a slow fire, and are spread over the ground, and dug in with the manure.

The planting of potatoes is the third kind of labour which the colonists are taught ; and this generally follows their acquisition of some dex-

terity in managing the spade. The whole colonists of every family, capable of participating in this labour, reserve for themselves an 8th of the quantity planted. On this account, the potatoes are sorted before planting, and the best always used as seed.

For carrying the manure, harvest, and fuel, a team of oxen or horses is kept, as soon as the ground in the colony produces food for them, and it has been found advisable to employ these, when not otherwise engaged, in ploughing certain portions of the land. The ablest colonists are taught to plough, and at first labourers are hired.

The ground requisite for the maintenance of the horses or oxen, is laboured proportionally by the inhabitants of each division, and the expenses are transferred to the common field labour column of each family, as will be afterwards shown. The wages of the ploughman are regulated by the labour which he performs.

All the time remaining, after the necessary field labour of June and the first half of July, is occupied in cutting peat for the ensuing win-

ter. This is also done under the guidance of the division masters. Every family requires 30 stoks of 260 peats each, or in all 7,800 peats. Four stivers a stok are paid for cutting, and the children receive two stivers a stok for drying. The wages usually gained by this work, vary from 10 to 18 stivers a-day.

By making every division labour in this manner, under a proper control, by paying the colonists' work always in proportion to its quality and quantity, and by allowing nothing for work which is spoiled, the colonists are speedily instructed in their different field occupations. In general, the ground is cultivated in a correct and proper manner the third year, and is equal to the best managed land in the district. All the colonists, at first, cultivate even their own farm in common ; but, whenever a colonist has gained the silver medal, he is at liberty to partake in the common field labour, or to cultivate his farm by himself. If he chooses the latter, he is considered as a common tenant, and retains this privilege as long as he can maintain himself and family, and pay all his debts.

The first lesson given to the colonists in the manufacturing department, is generally confined to the spinning of flax, wool, &c. For that purpose a spinning school is established in every division, in the house of a colonist. One or more of the young females of every family in that division, are sent there to be taught by a properly qualified woman ; and this is continued until the pupils not only understand spinning thoroughly, but are likewise able to teach it to others. Those who do not make the necessary advancement, or who are idle, are obliged to finish their task in the spinning hall. The remaining members of the family, intended to be employed in spinning, are taught at home by the pupils thus previously instructed.

Once a-week, the spun flax is delivered to the director, or sub-director of manufactures, and is paid for according to its value and fineness. For all the thread which does not possess the requisite length and weight, or which is purposely moistened, in order to make up the loss of weight, nothing is paid. To this kind of labour the female part of the fa-

mily must be trained. The male part, below sixteen years of age, when incapable of field labour, are instructed in wool-spinning in the spinning-hall, which is situated as near as possible in the centre of the colony. This kind of labour is performed under the management of the director, sub-director, and overseer of manufactures.

At the commencement of a colony, the colonists are so distributed, that each ward contains a shoemaker, a tailor, two or three stocking-knitters, two or three linen-seamsters, a weaver, and two or three woollen-seamsters. Further, every colony must be provided, if possible, from among the colonists themselves, as in the other cases, with two carpenters, two masons, a blacksmith, and one or two hatters, &c. Where the colonists of that sort are wanting, they are trained to it by teachers.

Field labour, however, remains the chief object for all those who possess the requisite strength for it ; and the most of these trades are merely intended to provide for the consumption of clothes, or other articles, by the colonists.

The single exception to this rule, and it occurs only in very particular circumstances, is the spinning of the flax, which is converted into linen, and is delivered to those friends of the Society who have subscribed for it. The raw material for the manufacturing department must be bought until the improved nature of the soil will allow its cultivation within the colony.

The principal object of all these arrangements, is to enable every colony to obtain the necessaries of clothes, food, &c. for its own consumption within itself, and by its own labour, without injury to any of the existing trades.

Besides these kinds of labour, there are others which serve to afford the colonists an additional source of income, and to propagate the further extension of the system of colonization. Such are brick-making, lime-burning, cultivation of land for new colonies, grass-mowing, cutting of turf for sale, &c. &c.

Allusion has been already made (p. 20), in a general manner, to the mode of conducting the first cultivation of the moor. The most important rules in this department are the following :



**1st,** The burning of a part of the surface, when it is of a mossy nature, or covered thickly with heath, is very useful, and therefore must not be neglected when practicable.

**2d,** A mossy surface must always be mixed with sand or clay three inches deep.

**3d,** For that purpose, sand or clay, which has been already worked several times, are the best, such as old dykes, ditches, &c. When these cannot be found, the ground must be dug eighteen inches or two feet deep, and the requisite sand thrown out from trenches opened for that purpose.

**4th,** The sand or clay must be thoroughly mixed with the ashes and moss.

**5th,** Ground, which is too sandy, or quite destitute of turf, ought not to be cultivated; but if its cultivation be absolutely necessary, at least three hundred loads of turf per morgen must be laid upon it; and, after this quantity has been well mixed with the sand, 100 loads more must be slowly burnt upon it. When this method is impracticable, it only remains to manure very heavily; and the rotation must be

so conducted that the land be by turns four years in crop, and four years in grass.

*6th*, The ground must always be opened sixteen or eighteen inches deep, either by digging or by ploughing. The upper soil should, as much as possible, be kept uppermost; because, from the openness of the subsoil, the mould is very apt to be washed down and be lost.

Attention to the production of manure is of the most vital importance, and one day in the week, Saturday, is therefore set apart for its collection. In the end of autumn, or not later than the 1st of December, about 150 loads of turf are placed in a heap near the farm. Every portion of land which is broken up, yields for this purpose one-third of the turf on its surface. Each house is furnished with a reservoir or tub for liquid manures, and no portion of any fertilising matter is allowed to be lost. Besides the pit for liquid, there is also a receptacle for the dry manure, which consists of mossy turf, rich mould, dung of the sheep, cows, &c. The dry manure is watered by the liquid once, and mixed and turned twice every week.

Ten sheep are at first frequently given in place of a cow, and they are bedded with the thin turf. Immediately on the arrival of the colonists, a collection of turf, to be converted into manure, is made, and the contents of the tub are mixed with the sheep-dung. The tub produces six or seven hundred pounds of strong manure, and the penn of twenty sheep, a load of turf dung per week. By these means, and the addition of the cow-dung and the house-ashes, and a small quantity of lime, four or five loads of 1000 pound weight each may be made, on an average per week, on every fully cultivated farm. Thus, 1000 or 1200 roods, for grain, may be manured annually, and excellent crops raised on the remaining 900 roods by the liquid manure \* alone.

\* The strength of this species of manure, when in a proper state of fermentation, is quite extraordinary; and it may appear incredible to our farmers, that, in the best cultivated district of Europe, the ordinary dry manures are comparatively little esteemed. "Corder. *Memoir sur l'Agriculture de la Flandre Francaise*," p. 195, 8vo. Paris, 1823. The account of the process there given is accompanied by plans and sections of the best kind of pits. Those in the colonies are of a much more common description.

The turf required for manure, may be taken from the uncultivated ground until the third year. Afterwards 250 roods of clover and rye-grass, of the second year, may be pared annually for that purpose. If the ground be too sandy for obtaining the requisite quantity, twenty-five or thirty loads of fenn, from the heath, may be added to the compound. As every patch of ground, on the change of crop, by turns, adds to the general manuring, and again receives back that of which it was deprived, the powers of fertility in the soil receive no injury. By this process, also, the nutritive portions of the upper surface are sooner decomposed, and more rapidly prepared for returning to the body of the new plants, and yielding them sustenance. By admixture with the turf, likewise, the strong house-manure is prevented from being injured by too rapid fermentation.

The cultivation of a part of each farm, before the arrival of the colonists, being absolutely necessary, in order to diminish the first expense of their subsistence, and to procure the requisite manure for the further progress of cultivation,

850 or 900 roods are prepared. The first supplies of manure must be bought. The ground, when cultivated for the first time, may be divided in various ways. Sometimes the following mode is adopted :—

	Roods.
Common kitchen vegetables - -	50
Early potatoes - - - -	100
Late ditto - - - -	275
Oats, buck-wheat, or spurry, with clover and rye-grass - - -	455
<hr/>	
Total, including garden, - -	880

The land is frequently not capable of bearing better or more lucrative crops the first year. If it has been prepared in the summer preceding the arrival of the colonial family, the 455 roods must be sown in September with winter rye, and, in the following spring, with barley and clover and rye-grass, as in No. 1. of the first rotation table, at p. 21.

It seems, however, to be a better arrangement, after deducting the space occupied by roads, site

of house, &c. and setting apart only 100 roods for vegetables, &c. in the garden, to divide the remainder, say into sixteen beds, each of 125 roods. The cropping, before the arrival of the colonists, would then be as follows :—

	Kitchen Vegetables.	House.	Early Potatoes.	
1	Potatoes.	Road.	Potatoes.	9
2	Potatoes.		Oats with clover.	10
3	Oats with clover.		Oats with clover.	11
4	100 roods clover and hay.			12
5				13
6				14
7				15
8				16

If 950 roods, including the garden, are thus brought under tillage before the arrival of the colonial family, and if the season be good, the potatoes, &c. will be more than sufficient for the maintenance of the household.

The rye, oats, buck-wheat or spurry, in either of the preceding systems, enable the colonist to obtain the requisite fodder for a cow, during the latter part of the season, after his arrival. The clover promises him green food for one cow, during the following summer, and winter fodder for two. The scarcity of fodder, however, generally prevents a colonist, who arrives in June, from keeping a cow before October of the same year.

During the first year, after the arrival, each family requires 36 schepels of rye for food, and 10 for seed, also 100 schepels summer potatoes, 200 schepels winter ditto, and clover, hay, and garden vegetables.

The cropping of the first year, after the arrival, is arranged after this manner :—

Kitchen Vegetables.			House.	Early Potatoes.			
1	Rye sown down.			Road.	Rye sown down.		9
2	Rye sown down.				Clover.		10
3	Clover.				Clover.		11
4	100 roods clover.	25 roods potatoes.			Potatoes		12
5	Potatoes.				100 roods potatoes.		13
6							14
7							15
8							16

Including the garden, 1325 are thus cultivated, and 200 loads of manure are now requisite.

In the October of the preceding year, 130 loads of manure had been collected. Of these, however, 50 were used in manuring the 375 roods, on which the potatoes grew in the pre-



ceding summer, and in preparing them for the winter rye, which was sown in the beginning of October. The winter crop is sown down in spring with clover and rye-grass.

To the 950 roods, prepared before the arrival of the colonist, are now added the 450, cultivated by their own exertions. The quantity of manure having been increased to 200 loads, all the ground must be in readiness for sowing in the beginning of May of the third year of cultivation. The clover grounds are top-dressed in the end of February.

In the third year of cultivation, the colonist requires the food above mentioned, fodder for the maintenance of two cows, 50 *fl.* for the payment of his rent, and 50 *fl.* for the funds of common field labour. The cropping of the second year, after the colonists' arrival, or of the third year of cultivation, is therefore as follows :—

	Kitchen Vegetables.	House.	Early Potatoes.	
1				9
	Clover.	ROAD.	Clover.	
2	Clover.		Clover.	10
3	Rye.		Rye.	11
4	Rye.		Rye.	12
5	Rye.		Rye.	13
6	Rye.		Rye.	14
7	Potatoes.		Potatoes.	15
8	Potatoes.		Stall-forage and potatoes.	16

The farm is now completely brought under tillage. Thus :—

	Roods.
4 Beds with clover, at 125 roods each, are	500
8 Rye, . . . . .	1000
3 Potatoes, . . . . .	375
$\frac{1}{2}$ Bed potatoes, . . . . .	$62\frac{1}{2}$
$\frac{1}{2}$ Stall forage, . . . . .	$62\frac{1}{2}$
1 Végatables and early potatoes . . . . .	100
	<hr/> 2100

After the expiry of the third year, the change of field products may be regulated according to circumstances. A useful short rotation for some land has been already noticed at pages 21, 22. The following has been found a good long rotation ; and long rotations are best where neither the soil nor the manures are strong. Thus, first year, rye ; second year, clover ; third year, clover ; fourth year, rye ; fifth year, flax, stall fodder, and potatoes ; sixth year, rye ; seventh year, potatoes ; eighth year, rye ; the ninth year, or the first of the second rotation, may commence with summer corn, clover, &c.\* A farm of 2100 roods, managed according to this system, will contain yearly :—

	Roods.
Of Rye, . . . . .	1000
Fodder, . . . . .	600
Potatoes, . . . . .	300
Flax, . . . . .	100
Vegetables and early potatoes	100
	<hr/>
	2100

\* The rye is often sown in this rotation, because the summer corn is very extensively cultivated in the northern provinces, and in fruitful years, can with difficulty be sold. The rye is imported in great quantities, and grows best in the grounds of the colonies.

It is also a fixed rule in this, as in the other rotation, that as soon as the harvest is ended, the land must be sown with spurry or turnips, in order to get two crops in one year. The early potatoe ground in the garden, and a part of the late potatoe ground, must be also sown with winter rye, to be cut green, as early fodder, in the spring.

The above-mentioned division of the farms must admit of occasional variations, and the cultivation of the ground is therefore settled annually by a particular resolution, but always conforming as much as possible to the principles already laid down.

Two hundred florins are intended to defray the expense of the 950 roods on every farm, cultivated previously to the colonists' arrival. During the first year after the arrival of the colonists, not more than 400 roods additional can be brought in, on account of their inability to undergo the fatigue of agricultural labour. In the second year, however, 750 or 800 roods may be prepared with ease ; and thus, at the commencement of the third year, the farm may be completed

for sowing; 191 *fl.* having been paid, during these two years, to the colonists themselves as wages.

1300 roods of well managed, and often tilled ground, are requisite for the comfortable maintenance of the household, and for seed, &c. thus :—

100 Roods early potatoes and a garden.

200 ——— late potatoes.

400 ——— rye

600 ——— Summer and winter stall fodder for cows, &c.

---

1,300 Roods.

There remains 800 roods for paying the rent of the land and other expenses.

According to the estimate, already given (p. 50), the 1300 roods would be equal to 388 *fl.* ; and, taking the whole farm at 525 *fl.*, 137 *fl.* would represent the value of the 800 roods. To that sum, however, must be added the 200 *fl.* for manufacturing and field labour. If from the 337 *fl.*, 85 *fl.* be deducted as the rent of the farm and of the cows, and as the contribution to—

wards the administration fund, the household will be found to possess exactly 252*fl.*, as formerly stated, for the payment of their debts, subscription to common field labour fund, &c.

The *Society of Benevolence* gives at the commencement, and insures during the subsequent years, to every family taken into the colony,—6 pounds of bread per day, made either of rye simply, or of potatoes and rye mixed,—three or four schepels of potatoes a-week, according to the number of individuals in the family, and 25 stivers for purchasing sundries in the shop. The money is paid in cards of one or two stivers each, and these are equal to as much ready cash in the colonial shops. The cards may also be changed at the book-keeper's office for ordinary coin, if the colonist wishes to buy any thing elsewhere ; and for that purpose, an opportunity is given once a-week ; on condition, however, that the articles bought, in this manner, be shown to the ward-master of the ward.

The rye bread is charged at the market price, or at about six stivers per twelve pounds ; the potatoes at about seven stivers the schepel,

weighing forty pounds; and the clothing, according to the tariff of the Society. These advances may be averaged, in cash, annually at about 293 *fl.* (p. 53.) or weekly as follows :—

	Florin.	Cents.
For rye-bread . . . .	1	.5
Potatoes . . . .	1	.40
<i>Cards (for shop goods)</i>	1	.25
<i>Clothes</i> . . . .	1	.93
Total	<i>fl.</i> 5	.63

If provisions rise in price, the value of these advances, and the subtraction from income increase accordingly. To the families or households of orphans, eight pounds of bread are given a-day, instead of six; and a quarter-pound of butcher meat daily for every child, or a proportionate quantity of pork, according to the wish of the families.

Besides the already mentioned advances, every family is also enabled to purchase from the Society 7000 or 8000 peats, (p. 80.) at the low price of eight stivers per stok, of 260 each, including

carriage; and this sum may be paid by small instalments, every week.

During the first two years after their arrival, *exclusive of the produce of the imperfectly cultivated farm*, every family may win 300 *fl.* annually, (p. 30.) Thus,

	Florins.
<i>By the first cultivation of the land</i>	100
<i>By extraordinary manufacturing labour</i>	100
By ordinary ditto	50
By extraordinary field labour	50
	<hr/> 300

From the 300 *fl.*, 30 *fl.* or 10 per cent., are deducted for the administration fund. The colonists also derive considerable benefit from the crops which the ground already produces.

In the third year, the allowances for the first cultivation of the land, and for the extraordinary manufacturing labour cease; but these are replaced—by the 150 *fl.* per family, for ordinary field labour, and for assisting the orphans, and—by the increased produce of the lands. If that produce be averaged at 525 *fl.*, the gross income



will then be 725 *fl.*, as formerly stated (p. 50.) A family earning 100 *fl.* by ordinary field labour, must repay 50 *fl.* to that fund in produce; and the expenditure in clothes is nearly equal to the earnings in manufacturing labour. Thus, all useless expenditure is avoided, and the whole powers of a family are applied as much as possible for its own benefit. The necessity of making the income of a family, during a whole year, as equal as possible, will not be doubted by any one acquainted with the extravagant behaviour of the poor in times of plenty. Every colonist may free himself, (p. 16.) from these regulations, by gaining the silver medal; and he then takes much trouble off the Society.

It still remains to show, how the family is enabled to provide for the requisite clothes and shop goods. Every household expends 100 *fl.* annually in clothes, and may, in this manner, win from 90 *fl.* to 100 *fl.* a-year. Each family pays from 10 *fl.* to 15 *fl.* a-year for peat. These sources of income, when added to the winnings from the fund of ordinary field labour, yield about 3 *fl.* 17 cents a-week. If 1 *fl.*

93 cents for clothes be deducted from this, 1 *fl.* 25 cents will remain for shop goods. From the preceding remarks on the cultivation of the farms, the reader will easily understand how amply the repayment of the advances for the rye, potatoes, &c. is secured.

If the colonist's income consists of less than the already mentioned advances, the deficiency is placed to his *debit*, and subtracted from the harvest of his farm. The subsistence of every family is thus secured. When this deficiency of income, however, is caused by idleness, every member of the family is tasked to a certain quantity of work. For the non-performance of these tasks, the colonists are brought before a committee, composed of certain members of the Society resident at Steenwyk. The accusation is then carefully examined; and, if proven, the guilty colonist is transmitted to Ommerschans or Veenhuisen, where the discipline is much stricter. The housekeepers are obliged to take care, that the tasks of the children, over whom they are placed, be properly performed, and are bound to supply the deficiency themselves.

The management of the harvest is subjected to a certain control, according to the greater or less economy of the family. From the first harvest of the colonist, one-half, besides the seed for the ensuing year, may be deducted for the ordinary field labour fund, between 160 and 200 schepels of potatoes for winter provision, and 36 schepels of rye. From the second harvest, in addition to the subtraction for seed and food, it may be necessary to deduct one-third as rent and contribution towards the fund of common field labour. The third harvest, besides the sustenance of the family, &c. may be likewise burdened with 50 *fl.* as rent, 50 *fl.* towards the fund of field labour, and 25 *fl.* towards the payment of other debts.

The colonists are divided, after the third year, into three classes.

*1st*, An industrious and saving colonist receives the silver medal, and may then either cultivate his ground, by himself, or in common, as before. If he chooses the first, he is of course exempted from paying the 50 *fl.* from his harvest, to the fund of the common field labour. All the rest

of the colonists are obliged, on the contrary, to cultivate their ground in common; and their crops and wages are answerable for the assistance given to each. The colonist who gains the gold or silver medal, is looked upon as a common tenant, with respect to the management of his land, and is not subjected to any deduction for wages of work done on his farm, or to any other restraint, excepting those relative to dress, and the school and religious instruction.

2d, The colonists of the second class, to whose management a part of the crop is intrusted, and who have received the brass medal, are obliged, besides the payment of rent, and the contribution towards the fund of field labour, to deliver to the magazine of the colony, 36 schepels of rye. From that deposit, they receive, during the whole year, 6 lbs. of bread per day. If the rye crop has failed, potatoes may be substituted in its stead. By the delivery of that quantity, the deduction, on account of the necessaries of life, ceases. The colonists who receive the brass medal must also show that they lay up between 160 and 200 schepels of potatoes; and upon

that quantity they must support themselves until the early potatoes arrive in the following year. If they cannot do this, and are forced to ask the assistance of the Society, they must return the medal, and go to the third class of colonists.

*3d*, This third class includes the majority of the colonists. They receive no medals, and are obliged to deliver to the magazine a larger proportion of their crops. Their obligations are, *1st*, the rent, and the stipulated sum towards the fund of common field labour; *2d*, 36 schepels of rye (p. 90.) or the value of them, in order to receive six lbs. of bread a-day; *3d*, Between 160 and 200 schepels of potatoes for winter provision; *4th*, 25 *fl.* in part payment of their debts; *5th*, 2 stivers, or 1-10th of every florin of their income, towards the administration fund; *6th*, the half of their earnings from the funds of the ordinary field and manufacturing labour. The rest of the crops, after the requisite deduction for seed, is placed at their own disposal.

Every person on his first arrival in the colony, belongs to the third class, until his good con-

duct raises him to a higher People long accustomed to poverty, however virtuous in other respects, with difficulty refrain from extravagance, when suddenly placed over a value of 200 *fl.* or 300 *fl.* in crops. They have been found incapable of regulating their resources in such a manner, as their maintenance, during a whole year, required. For these reasons, it has been necessary to enforce such precautions as may, during the whole year, secure the indispensable necessities of life.

The chief objectors to these restraints, are those addicted to drinking. Their income is paid in cards; and when they wish to purchase any thing out of the colony, they must be accompanied, on certain hours, by an inferior officer, to the town or village shop. The *Direction*, in every colony, must take care that this rule be strictly enforced. It is incredible how gin has been abused by the lower classes, in Holland, and how much care is necessary to destroy the pernicious practice of tippling.

The moral discipline of the colonists consists of four departments :—1st, The prevention of all

the actions which are contrary to their duties as colonists ; 2d, The punishment and removal of all those colonists who cannot be kept to their duty by such gentle reprimands as the colonial laws allow to be administered ; 3d, The religious instruction ; and, 4th, The school education.

Constant attention from the functionaries is very necessary in the first department. The ward-masters visit the families at least every other day, and see that all the inmates are clean and well behaved. The division-master must prevent the use of any improper expressions in the field, and stop all swearing, and disturbances of every kind. Every master of division, who fails in the discharge of this article of his duty, immediately loses his situation. The book-keepers and sub-directors are obliged to visit every family at least once a-week, and to observe if the ward-masters be fulfilling their duties. The deputy-director likewise must visit every household placed under his inspection, at least once in the fortnight, and make a written report to the Direction, respecting the treatment,

conduct, and appearance of each family. Finally, the Director is obliged to examine every month a certain number of families, particularly those who require his attention most, and to investigate if the subordinate functionaries have done their duty. The success of the whole scheme will always depend upon the greater or less attention bestowed by the superior officer, in keeping to their duty those under his care. The situation of director is of great importance to the welfare of the colonies, because the first and most powerful impulse must proceed from him.

In pronouncing judgment on the conduct of the colonists, every partial view must be, as much as possible, avoided. What the general laws of ordinary civil society, or the particular laws in the colonies, do not forbid, may indeed, in particular circumstances, be a violation of prudence, but must never be considered as worthy of punishment. The colonist, when reprimanded, must be shown the rule which he has violated ; and it is generally better to allow a deed, which is not prohibited, to pass unnoticed, although,



strictly speaking, it may be a fault, than to be constantly chiding. The accuser of a colonist must leave the punishment to the superior functionary. Frequently, when displeasure is excited by a deed, the judgment is misled regarding its true character ; and, therefore, it is absolutely necessary that the decision should be left to another. If the charge be of a grave nature, a *Court of Inspection* is summoned by the director. Two colonists are always members of this tribunal. This court, after due investigation, decides the guilt or innocence of the accused. If declared innocent, the accused is forthwith set at liberty ; but, if found guilty, he is brought by the director before the Court of *Police*, (consisting of some honorary members of the Society residing at Steenwyk,) and there the final sentence is pronounced.

A strict attention to these, apparently unnecessary, but really essential, forms ; and a mild, but sure, punishment of all offences, is the chief rule to be always kept in mind in this branch of colonial management. When these means are unavailing, the offender must be immediately re-

moved to another institution like that of Ommer-schans or Veenhuisen, where a still stricter control is exercised. Nothing is worse than a bad and unpunished example.

The religious education is left entirely to the clergymen of the different communities. The sub-directors and ward-masters, however, take care that every colonist attends the public worship of his sect. The functionaries must here also set the example. At least one ward-master is required to be present in the church, as a restraint upon the conduct of the colonists during public worship. Equal care must be taken that the children attend the catechisations of their community. The sub-directors give exact lists of the colonists who are of age, and of the colonial children, to the clergymen of the different communities entrusted with their religious instruction ; and the clergymen note on these, every person who has conducted himself improperly, either during public worship, or in the catechisation. These lists are returned monthly, and immediate attention is paid to amend the stated defects. The sub-directors,

ward, and schoolmasters, must employ, in the attainment of these objects, whatever means the clergymen of the different communities may recommend. Every one placed in the direction of a colony, is expected to remember, that the formation of moral and religious men, is no less the object of the Society's exertions, than the affording support to the needy; and that every one is obliged to assist in this grand purpose, both by his example, and by a proper use of the authority with which he is intrusted.

For leave to purchase any particular books, recommended by the clergymen, an application is made to the director, and the expense of these is placed to the account of the family receiving them. The necessary Bibles, said to be requisite by the clergymen for their pupils or members, are procured in the same manner, and ought to be given to those only, who are reported by the clergyman of the community to require them. The ward-masters must notice particularly those to whom Bibles have been distributed, and, at the inspection of goods, cause them to be produced.

Regarding the hours of instruction in the schools, a list is formed by the sub-director, of all the children capable of giving attendance ; and, in this list are marked the hours on which the children ought to be present. The school-master notes down those who are absent. Every one of the ward-masters of a colony, by turns, has the management of the school police for eight days. The ward-master on duty must visit the school every night, mark down those who have been absent, and give a report to the sub-director. The schoolmasters of the different schools have also a book in which they record every extraordinary occurrence. It contains the names of the industrious, the idle, and the backward pupils. The circumstance of the ward-master having regularly visited the school is also noted in it. An abstract from this book is sent to the school governor ; and these reports must contain a full statement of every thing affecting the learning and moral education in the schools. No disorder or improper conversation is ever tolerated in the schools ; and the ward-master, who is intrusted with the school police,

must assist the master, if required. Care is likewise taken, that the girls above thirteen years, and the youths of the same age, receive instruction at different hours ; and that between these hours there be some interval, in order to prevent their meeting, either in the school, or in its neighbourhood.

The general school governor is required to attend the instruction, at least, once a-week, in every school, to examine the school-book, and see that the rules, regarding the system of education, be followed. The monthly reports, which he receives from the teachers in the different schools, are given by himself, in person, to the director, on the third of every month ; and he must then consult with the director on all the important matters entrusted to his charge.

The pecuniary arrangements before the arrival of the colonists, contain two departments ; that under the immediate direction of the permanent commission itself, (p. 4.) and that under the control of the director. The former includes the purchasing of ground, the contracting for buildings, and the delivery of such portions of the house-

hold furniture, as are not made in the already existing colonies. And the latter,—the first cultivation of the 800 or 900 roods of each farm, before the arrival of the colonists, the manuring and sowing of this portion, the formation of the requisite roads, &c.

It will be sufficient to mention the general rules connected with these two branches of government, and then describe the procedure, after the arrival of the colonists. For all expenses, both those incurred by the Permanent Commission, and the directors, the regular tariffs cannot be exceeded, unless by the authority of the Commission of Benevolence; and that authority cannot be granted excepting in extreme cases. A part of the 1700 *fl.* required for the establishment of a family, is invested on subjects which must always remain the property of the Society. This is the case with first, fifth, and ninth heads of the Table of Expenses, on p. 8. For these are expended 1000 *fl.*, and, on this advance, the householder pays annually 50 *fl.* as rent. The expenses for clothes, furniture, cows, and

other advances, amounting to about 700 *fl.* are also reckoned as debts of the colonists, which they are obliged and enabled to repay in the course of sixteen years at latest. The outlay for the principal buildings, such as the sub-director's house, manufacturing hall, school, dwelling house for the book-keepers and ward-masters, &c., is provided for, by the savings from the already mentioned heads of the Society's expenses; and when these are insufficient, by subscriptions from Java, and voluntary donations or bequests, not destined to any specific object. The income from the settled colonies will afterwards defray these expenses.

For every colony, in particular, a grand Book is kept by the Director. In it the expenses are noted under the heads so often mentioned. Each head is *credited* with the tariffed sum, and *debited* with the outlay.

Thus, after the institution of a colony, it may be easily seen what every department has cost, and what has been the increase or diminution under each. In the recapitulation of this book, the total expenses of the colony are found.

The purchase of grounds is generally made by particular agents of the Society. In no case can the sum of 30 *fl.* be exceeded per Rhinland morgen of uncultivated waste land: and this is a sufficient security against all abuse. The buildings are erected by public contract. The Society delivers for each colonial house 10,000 bricks, which cost them about 60 *fl.*: and the building of the farm-houses has, for a long time, been undertaken at 440 *fl.* each, being 60 *fl.* less than the tariffed sum. An overseer is appointed to superintend the construction. He informs the director every week of all the faults which he has discovered. The director forwards these reports to the Permanent Commission, and in the mean time orders the defects to be remedied. After the houses are entirely finished, they are inspected by a special committee, nominated for that purpose, and the payment of the last instalment of the contract price takes place after their approval of the work.

The manufactured articles are delivered to the general wareroom of the colonies. A book-keeper receives them all at the tariffed rates, whether they



be sent directly by the Permanent Commission, or made in any particular colony by their order, and delivered by the director of manufactures. The advances of these goods to the sub-director of each colony, and by him to the colonists, is also made at certain tariffs. In the wareroom there are samples, with which the goods brought in must be compared, and the book-keeper is answerable for their agreement. The pocket-book of every colonist also contains a note of the articles to be delivered to him with their prices. A list is sent to the Permanent Commission, of the goods on hand in the wareroom, and their value, in the beginning of each month. In this are also distinguished the value of the different articles received during the bygone month, and the prices of the articles given out during that period. It is evident that, as all the advances to a colony appear in the Grand Book of each, these Grand Books are the checks upon the wareroom books, while the Grand Books themselves are checked by the receipts in the pocket-books of the indi-

vidual colonists, and by the remainders in the colonial warerooms.

All the deliveries of the raw material into the wareroom of the Society are made, as much as possible, in public. Each colony receives the necessary quantity from this, and is, at the same time, debited with its value under a separate head. Under this head are entered all the wages, and every other expense connected with the manufacturing labour; and these together make out the debits of this account. On the credit side are afterwards placed the value of the goods manufactured. Thus, it constantly appears, whether the manufacturing department has refunded the outlay. When these manufactured articles are taken from the colonial wareroom, their value is again entered under a particular head, and clothes made of them. The wages employed for these purposes are also entered, and the outlay for manufactured goods and wages again compared with the clothes delivered into the wareroom. The manufacturing branch is therefore divided into two parts,—1st, the manufacturing of cotton and woollen

stuffs, such as linen, cloth, &c. ; and, 2d, the conversion of these stuffs into articles of dress. This separation is necessary in order to detect the particular process upon which any loss has been sustained.

All the goods are delivered from the ware-room, at an advance of 4 per cent. above prime cost. If the delivery be made to the shop-keeper, the price is only 2 per cent. and he becomes answerable for the payment of the goods sold by him.

Regarding the first cultivation of the land, previous to the arrival of the colonists, a scheme is prepared by the director. This scheme includes both the manner of laying out the farms, roads, drains, &c. and the course to be followed, in preparing the ground, and the price and extent of the work. Care must be taken in forming it, that the total expenses remain as much as possible below the fixed sum of 200 *fl.* per farm, including 50 *fl.* for general expenses of roads, &c.

In the execution of this scheme the greatest vigilance is necessary. Every overseer of the labourers employed, keeps a weekly account of

the names of those over whom he is placed—of the work executed by them each day—of the number of the farm on which it is done, and the wages. Printed tables, which only require filling up, are given to the overseers for these purposes. From these printed tables, a general pay state is made out every week, and, after the sums noted there have been placed in the Grand Book of the colony, the pay states, and weekly accounts, are sent to the Permanent Commission, and entered also in their books. If the fixed or stipulated sums have been exceeded, it is easy to trace on what farm—under what overseer—and in what department of work, a greater expense has been incurred than the tariff allows. Thus, mistakes or frauds may be easily discovered and corrected.

After about 950 roods have been manured, sown, and the houses built, notice of the time when the colonists may be sent, is given to the sub-committees by the Permanent Commission. Immediately after their arrival, the following system of accounts requires to be strictly pursued :—

In the first place, the sub-director's book comprises the eight following heads:—Colonial cash-account—first cultivation of the ground—ordinary field labour—extraordinary ditto—ordinary manufacturing labour—extraordinary ditto—particular advances—administration fund.

The head, *Colonial Cash-account*, is credited with the whole sum which may be expended for the colony. The money already drawn, is placed to the debit of that account every week, and subtracted from the fixed sum, so as to show at once how much of that sum has been already expended, and how much remains to expend.

The head, *First Cultivation of the Ground*, appears only during the first two years after the arrival of the colonists. This head is credited, for the first year after the arrival of the colonist, with 100 *fl.*; and, for the second, with 91 *fl.*; and debited with all the sums laid out on the first cultivation of the farm. The expenses incurred under this head, are annually transferred to the *Grand Book* of the colony, where they are placed under the head of the first cultiva-

tion of the land, which was credited at first with 391 *fl.* \* per farm. Two hundred of these may be expended before the arrival of the colonists, and the remainder in the course of the two years immediately following that event. Thus, after the lapse of these two years, after the arrival of the colonist, the whole expense of the first cultivation of the land must appear under that head in the Grand Book of each colony.

The second head of the sub-director's book, that of *the Ordinary Field Labour*, is credited with 75 *fl.* per farm; and all sums expended yearly on a farm, above the fixed expense of the first cultivation of the land, during the first two years, must be placed under this division; because all expenses, on a farm, are either connected with the in-bringing of the land, or with the tillage of the land already cultivated. The expenses of the ordinary field labour are not great at first: a small portion of the land only being cultivated and sown before the arrival of the co-

\* Regularly 400 *fl.* are allowed for the first cultivation of the land; but, excepting in extraordinary cases, 9 *fl.* are generally saved under this head for every farm.

lonist. After the expiry of the two years, the head of the first cultivation of the land becomes useless, and then all the expenses incurred on a farm, are placed under the head of *Ordinary Field Labour*.

By *Extraordinary Field Labour*, we are to understand every thing that is done in another colony. It has been already mentioned, that a part of the land is cultivated before the arrival of the colonists by those who are settled. The Permanent Commission limits the amount of wages to be won in this manner to 50 *fl.* each family. This sum may, however, be exceeded, if the quantity of work to be executed in the newly established colony requires it. The 50 *fl.* do not belong, therefore, to the expenditure of a colony already settled, but only appear in the book of the sub-director, in order to show at all times, how much the colonists have gained in wages for work done, either within their own colony, or in another. The money is transferred by the sub-director of the newly founded colony every week, to the sub-director of those colonists who have earned it, and paid by him to

his own colonists. It is kept, however, within the lines, in making up the yearly account of expenses of the settled colony.

The head, *Ordinary Manufacturing Labour*, is credited with 140 *fl.* per farm. Under this division are included all the manufactured articles made within the colony, and used as dress, &c. by the colonists themselves. This head is debited both with the wages and with the value of the raw material. The annual sum required for clothing each family, after the first outfit, may be reckoned, including the price of the raw material, at about 100 *fl.* Thus, at an average, an excess of goods, to the amount of 40 *fl.*, are produced above the consumpt. As the colonists, however, on their arrival, are entirely clothed from the wareroom, and clothing sufficient for a family costs the Society about 130 *fl.*, every colonist must return to the wareroom, in the course of a little more than three years, as many articles as will be equal in value to the advances made from the warehouse; otherwise, the Society would be obliged to purchase from other quarters a part of the necessities for the new colonies.



After the elapse of the three years, and supposing the extension of the colonial system not to exceed the usual rate, the fixed sum already mentioned must be decreased to such a degree, that the quantity manufactured be nearly equal to the quantity consumed, or does not rise above 100 *fl.* per family. Of course the wages to be won by the colonists, for manufacturing labour, must be in the same proportion lessened. But this may be done without injury, as the lands are then fully cultivated.

The head—*Extraordinary Manufacturing Labour*—is credited with 50 *fl.* per family during the first two years, and afterwards increased or decreased as circumstances permit. By *extraordinary manufacturing labour*, we are to understand the spinning of flax, the weaving and bleaching of linen for those persons who have ordered yarn or cloth from the Society. Such orders afford another source of income to the colonists until the farms are fully cultivated. This employment is particularly useful in the winter season, when the *field labour* cannot be continued. By it also, the colonists are instruct-

ed in a kind of work which may be of much benefit to them afterwards.

The flax is sent by the Permanent Commission to the wareroom ; from thence it is given to the overseers of the manufacturing department in each colony. The wages gained by manufacturing the flax, are paid by every sub-director in his own colony, and the account of *extraordinary manufacturing labour* is debited with these sums. In a fully cultivated colony this head must be much diminished, and ought only to produce an occasional assistance to such families as have been rendered poorer than the rest, by the failure of the crops, excessive sickness, deaths, &c. It must not, however, exceed the quantity for which orders have been given. The Commission is very sparing in the deliverance of flax for weaving linen in ordinary times.

The head—*Administration Fund*—is credited annually with 25 *fl.* per family, and debited with all the expenses of the administration of a colony ; such as, the salaries of the sub-director, ward-master, book-keeper, spinning-overseer, schoolmaster, repairs on buildings, roads,

&c. This fund is replaced to the Society by a subtraction of ten per cent. on the wages of the colonists, as will be afterwards explained.

The last head—*Particular Advances*—is credited with 50 *fl.* per family, and debited with all the advances required for the family's maintenance per week above their regular income. These advances may be for food, clothing, hay, seed-corn, &c. Under this division are included all the expenses incurred by a family not included within the 1700 *fl.* specified in the tariff, (p. 8.) These advances make out a part of the current debt of every family, and are annually subtracted, in certain proportions, from their earnings or from their crops.

The whole capital required for these expenses, in a colony of 100 families, is 39,000 *fl.*, exclusive of the 191 *fl.* or 200 *fl.* per farm, which are expended in the first cultivation of the land during the first two years after the arrival of the colonists, and which are carried to the *Grand Book* of the colony under that head. Thus—

	Florins
Ordinary field labour -	7500
<i>Extraordinary ditto</i> - -	5000
Ordinary manufacturing labour	14000
Extraordinary ditto - -	5000
<i>Administration fund</i> - -	2500
Particular advances - -	5000
	<hr/> 39,000

The 50 *fl.* per family, with which the fund for extraordinary field labour is credited, are paid by the new colony. The expenses of the administration fund, 25 *fl.* per family, are also replaced every week by the subtraction from earnings. Both these sums, in a colony of 100 families, being subtracted from 39000 *fl.*, there remain 31,500 *fl.*, which forms the real circulating capital of each established colony, and requires to be annually replaced to the Society by the colonists, in so far as it has been annually expended.

It may be right to begin, by showing how this capital is kept up before the farms are fully cultivated ; although some of the subsequent de-

tails are also applicable to this first division of the proof.

We have already mentioned that, on the arrival of the colonists, 200 *fl.* remained in the possession of the Society, for the head of the first cultivation of the land; 190 *fl.*, or, in round numbers, 200 *fl.* for manufacturing labour, and 50 *fl.* for particular advances (p. 8.) Forty-five thousand florins are therefore in readiness upon the arrival of the colonists, from these heads, in every colony of 100 families. Thus :

	Florins.
First cultivation of land per 100 farms,	20,000
Manufacturing labour, . . . .	20,000
Particular advances, . . . .	5000
	<hr/>
	45,000

This capital is diminished during the first two years after the arrival of the colonists, by 19,100 *fl.*, being the sum actually expended on the first cultivation of the land, and is reduced accordingly to 25,900 *fl.* On the other hand, however, it is increased by the value of that part of the harvest which is paid as rent, during the first two years; and by the 50 *fl.* which the Society pay

annually for the assistance given towards the cultivation of the farm of each orphan.\* As the number of these orphan-farms may be reckoned at 33 in a colony of 100 families, this sum, in the course of the two years, amounts to 3,300 *fl.* That part of the crops which the orphans pay, during the first two years, is also worth at least 2300 *fl.* in every colony of 100 families. These two sums make 5,600 *fl.* which being added to the 25,900 *fl.* exactly replaces the circulating capital of 31,500 *fl.* to the Society. If the produce of the colonial farms exceeds, during the two years, the sum necessary for replacing this capital, the excess is applied in reducing the debts of the colonists for clothing, furniture, and advances.

After the cultivation of the farms, the circulating capital is replaced as follows:—In the sub-director's book, an account of profits of the

\* In the contract made with regard to the orphans, it is fixed in the *Star*, No. VIII. of the year 1819, pages 703 and 4 ; and No. 1,1821, page 441 ; that out of the 360 *fl.* paid by the orphans per family of 6, 50 *fl.* shall be applied by the Society as wages to other families for the assistance given in cultivating the orphans' farms. *See above*, p. 45.

colony will be found, divided into the three heads,—Credits of the Colony—Credits of the Savings Bank, and Credits of Sundries. Under these all the profits of the colony are booked, and, by these profits, the circulating capital is kept up.

The credits of the colony consist of the farm produce, annually delivered by the colonists to the fund for ordinary field labour, to which every colonist is obliged, for the first year, to give up the half of his crop. In the second year, the family pays a third of their harvest, and ever afterwards until they receive the silver medal, 50 *fl.* in produce towards the already mentioned fund of ordinary field labour, besides the 50 *fl.* for rent, which is exacted from every fully cultivated farm. The sub-director receives the produce at the market price, and is personally answerable for it to the Society. When converted into cash, it falls under the management of the Finance Committee (p. 3), and is placed by them to the Society's credit. The head—Credits of the Colony—is also annually credited with 50 *fl.* for every occupied orphan farm in

the colony. From these sources together must be derived the fund of *Ordinary Field Labour* ; and when they are insufficient from failure of crop, lowness of price, &c. the deficiency becomes a debt of all the colonists, and is placed proportionally to their particular accounts. The expenses of *Extraordinary Field Labour* are not debts against the settled colony, and do not form any part of its circulating capital.

The expenses of *Ordinary Manufacturing Labour* are replaced by the manufactured articles which are delivered into the warerooms of the Society, according to a certain tariff. For all the goods which the director of the manufactures sends out of the colony, a receipt is granted, and the sum stated in that receipt is entered among the Credits of the colony. The expenses of manufacturing, and the prices of the manufactured articles when retailed to the colonists, being both fixed, care is taken that the price paid by the Society for the fabricated goods be met by their price when retailed.

The outlay for *Extraordinary Manufacturing Labour* is returned to the Society in the



same manner. The director of the manufacturers receives a particular receipt for all the thread, &c. prepared in a colony, and delivered into the ware-room. In that receipt the value of the wages expended on the spinning, &c. is specified, and the sum is entered under the head of Credits of the colony.

The expenses of the *Administration Fund* are repaid, as has already been stated, by ten per cent. or two stivers per florin retained weekly from the wages of each family. This money is also entered under the head of Credits of the colony; but it is reckoned weekly as cash placed in the hands of the sub-director, and therefore not included in the circulating capital, which requires to be only annually replaced. If the expenses of the administration have not amounted to the retained sums, the surplus reduces the debt of the colonists; and if the reverse, the deficiency increases them.

The *Particular Advances* are repaid by retaining from the colonists the half of all they gain above the sum required for their subsistence. When these deductions from their earnings are

insufficient, the payment is effected by subtractions from the harvest. From the colonist, who owes nothing under the head of *Particular Advances*, only ten per cent. on his earnings are deducted for the *Administration Fund*; and from the colonist who has bread and potatoes from his own ground, the value of these articles are, of course, not deducted. He who has obtained the silver medal, and cultivates his own land, is subjected to no other deduction than that for the administration fund. The Credit Savings Bank, does not seem to require any particular explanation. From the harvest of some of the colonists, and, if requisite, from their wages, are also deducted annually, after the third year, 25*fl.* in diminution of their debts for clothing and plenishing; and these payments are booked under the head of Credits of Sundries. The other incidental profits of a colony are also brought under the same head.

Finally, in the sub-director's book is likewise found the head of *Extraordinary Expenses*, which is merely an account between the director and the sub-director, relating to the purchase of

all those articles properly appertaining to the grand-book of the colony, and not to the circulating capital, such as cows, horses, farm-implements, &c.

The sub-director submits, every month, to the director an extract from his book. The sums for "Extraordinary Expenses" are then entered in the grand book of the colony, and the extracts, with their vouchers, are afterwards forwarded to the Permanent Commission.

Every colony has a book-keeper, who is obliged to keep the sub-director's book in order. To the sub-director's book is prefixed a table, containing the tariffed sums under every head, (p. 127.) and the credits of the Society, (p. 132.) The mode of keeping these tables may be seen by the annexed example.

COLONY, No.

*Account of the Tariffed and Expended Sums and Credits.*

DATES.	TARIFFED AND EXPENDED.	Field Labour.				Manufacturing Labour.				Administration Fund.				Particular Advances.				TOTAL.				PROFITS OF THE COLONY.				Sundry Extraordinary Expenses.			
		Ordinary.		Extraordinary.		Ordinary.		Extraordinary.		Administration Fund.		Particular Advances.		Credits of Colony.		Credits of Savings Bank.		Credits of Sundries.		Ct.		Ct.		Ct.		Ct.		Ct.	
		Flor.	Ct.	Flor.	Ct.	Flor.	Ct.	Flor.	Ct.	Flor.	Ct.	Flor.	Ct.	Flor.	Ct.	Flor.	Ct.	Flor.	Ct.	Flor.	Ct.	Flor.	Ct.	Flor.	Ct.	Flor.	Ct.	Flor.	Ct.
		7500	5000	14000	5000	200	100	2500	5000	2500	5000	5000	5000	70	1050	12	50	100	50	70	1050	12	50	100	50	70	1050	12	50
8 Jan.	Tariffed sums per 100 farms Expended . . . .	7500	5000	14000	5000	200	100	2500	5000	2500	5000	5000	5000	70	1050	12	50	100	50	70	1050	12	50	100	50	70	1050	12	50
15 —	Remainders of tariffed sums Expended . . . .	7400	4500	13800	4900	100	50	2450	4980	2450	4980	4980	4980	80	970	12	50	100	50	80	970	12	50	100	50	80	970	12	50
22 —	Remainders of tariffed sums Expended . . . .	7200	4450	13700	4850	700	50	2400	4930	2400	4930	4930	4930	50	920	10	80	100	50	50	920	10	80	100	50	50	920	10	80
29 —	Remainders of tariffed sums Expended . . . .	7150	4400	13000	480	1000	200	2360	4900	2360	4900	4900	4900	100	1550	20	200	200	100	100	1550	20	200	200	100	100	1550	20	200
	Remainders of tariffed sums	7050	4300	12000	4600			2310	4800	2310	4800	4800	4800	300	35060	53	30	400	300	300	35060	53	30	400	300	300	35060	53	30

For his own discharge, the sub-director keeps a simple *account current* with the director. In it he enters all his receipts and payments, and is thus enabled, at all times, to detect any omission by the book-keeper.

The pocket-books of the householders and colonists are sufficient checks over the sub-director's book. These pocket-books contain every article constituting either the sixteen years, or the current debt of each colonist. The sixteen years' debt includes all the articles in the table of expenses (p. 8), and may therefore amount to 1700 *fl.* The current debt is composed of the particular advances, (p. 132.) These are called the current debt; because they ought, if possible, to be paid annually, by deductions from earnings or crops. The colonist's weekly earnings, both in manufacturing and field labours—the deductions on account of the administration fund, and of his own debts—the sums placed by the orphans and children in the Savings Bank, are all entered in these pocket-books. The columns are brought up every week, and are kept by the head of each family. These books contain the full account-current of every family, and completely control not only the outlay for wages, under any head of the sub-director's book, but all the de-

ductions towards the administration fund, the repayment of debt, deposits in savings bank, &c.

The Grand Book, and that of the sub-director's, are annually balanced and docqueted. In the former, we have merely to find the tarified and expended sums under each head. By subtracting the latter from the former, and comparing the remainder with the circulating capital, the advancing or retrograding condition of the colony is readily shown. In like manner, the progress made by any colony during the year, may be learned by comparing the profits of the colony, in the sub-director's book, with the amount of the circulating capital. The different credits also show how much the colonists have paid in rent, and in diminution of their debts. The circumstantial account of each colonist, or colonial household, being kept separately, renders it easy to discern how much each has contributed towards replacing the circulating capital. As this is an important branch of the internal economy of the colonies, in the annexed table are given some exemplifications. They exhibit the pecuniary condition of five pauper households or farms, and of two orphan households or farms, in the free colonies.

*State of Income and Expenditure, say from the 1st to the 7th of January, 1828.*

No. of the Farms.	NAMES.	Age.	INCOME.				EXPENDITURE.								Retained.	Advanced.	Debt.	
			Field Labour.	Manufac- turing Labour.	Sundries.	Total.	To the Shop- keeper.	To the Family.	Pocket- Money for the Children.	For the Savings Bank.	Flor.	Ct.	Flor.	Ct.				Flor.
1	Vander Poot		1	1	3	5	2	50										
2	De Haan		-	2	6	8	3	29										
3	De Vos		4	-	-	4	10	2	1	69								
4	Van Kleef		-	3	5	8	20	4	3	20								
5	De Lange		-	-	2	2	-	5	-	-								
	Total,		5	6	16	27	20	16	11	68								
	P. Kleig	15	-	-	2	2	50											
	L. Van Os	10	-	50	-	50	-											
	T. De Roode	14	1	-	1	2	-											
	C. Van Vliet	16	-	50	1	50	35											
	G. Oostmeyer	15	-	-	2	2	-											
	K. Schulp	18	1	-	2	3	-											
	Total,		2	50	8	11	50	6	-	35								
	R. De Vos	6	-	-	-	5	-											
	N. Jansen	18	1	-	1	2	-											
	W. Nomen	7	-	-	-	-	-											
	G. Lyenaar	10	-	-	-	45	45											
	St. Krans	16	1	-	-	50	1											
	F. Dykstra	12	-	-	-	10	10											
	Total,		2	45	1	65	4	5										

ORPHANS.

A *Deputy-Director* is placed over every 500 families, as was already stated, (p. 73.) for the purpose of keeping the sub-directors to their duties. The deputy-director is, besides, obliged to make out a scheme, on the 1st of December each year, for the cultivation, manuring, and sowing of each colony under his care, for the following year. In this scheme, as in that for the first crop, (p. 118.), are also shown the labour and the outlay requisite for every month. This table of cropping is delivered to the director, who, after examination, sends it to the sub-director of the colony. By him it is again examined, and remitted to the Board of Administration, consisting of the deputy-director, and all the sub-directors under him. After receiving their revision and final corrections, it is forwarded to the Permanent Commission; and, being approved of by it, is carried into execution, under such modifications only as a change of circumstances may require.

The Board of Administration assembles as regularly as possible every Saturday at twelve o'clock. Each sub-director gives a report of his



operations during the week, which the deputy-director compares with the fixed regulations. The sub-directors then give in their notes of expenses for the following week, and their accounts of the outlay during the preceding one. These, after being investigated and docqueted by the deputy-director, are sent to the director.

The deputy-director also keeps a state, after a prescribed form, in which the rules for every colony, and the weekly expenditure, are written by the director's book-keeper. This enables the deputy-director to discern easily the financial state of every colony. The deputy-director also keeps a record of the members of each family, with their age, &c.

In the place where the Board of Administration assembles, the states of the weekly outlay are exhibited publicly to all the colonists, according to a certain model. From these states, the profits and debts of every family may be seen. If the family be incurring debt, the sub-director must inquire from the ward-master concerning the cause, and must endeavour to remove it, by adding children to the family as ap-

prentices ; or, if he cannot afford the requisite assistance, he must apply to the director for such aid, as he may think necessary to grant, ~~with~~ or without consulting the Permanent Commission. When the want of income proceeds from idleness only, every member of the family is tasked to a certain quantity of labour. If this remedy be still ineffectual, the family are summoned before the Court of Inspection. Neglect of duty being there proved against them, they are given over to the court of police, as already mentioned, (p. 75, 108). There the charge is again examined ; and, if well founded, they are sent to Ommerschans, or some similar colony, where scarcely any thing is given or advanced, excepting what has been earned. Of all the *proceedings* in the *Courts of Inspection and Police*, records are kept, which are closed every year, and sent to the Permanent Commission along with the pay state and general account.

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Since the publication of the General's Manual in 1822, the colonies have continued extending ;

and their management has attracted the attention and engaged the pens of various continental writers. J. D. Lavätz's Pamphlet on the poor colonies appeared in 1821; and in 1825, Mr. Von Poel \* of Altona, composed his treatise on the poor colonies of Holland. We had also a very recent opportunity of inspecting the whole range of colonies, and of strengthening, in our own minds, all the pleasing hopes which the narratives of others had, at first, excited.

Mr. Poel's work, besides embodying the reports of 1820, 1821, 1822, 1823, and 1824, contains some valuable information furnished by the General Van Den Bosch.

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All the colonies are now connected with each other, and with the Zuider-zee, by small canals, or by the rivers Aa, Lende, Uechte, &c. The purchase money has never exceeded the stipulated

\* The former work is entitled, "Ueber-Armen Kolonien," Altona; 1821, and the latter, "Ueber die Entstehung, den Fortgang, und die gegenwärtige Einrichtung der, in den Nördlichen Provinzen des Königreichs der Niederlande, errichteten Armen-Kolonien." Altona, 1825. They are both written in German.

maximum per acre, and has been frequently much below it. The first cultivation of the ground has been also completed for less than the stipulated maximum; and this advantage has chiefly been owing to the wisdom of the regulations for collecting manure, which enabled the colonies, after the first advance made by the Society, to supply that important article within themselves. The excellence of the colonial agricultural system (p. 19, 84.) is attested, both by the extraordinary fertility of their own lands, and by the fact of the members of the Farmer's Society of Overijssel having recommended a similar system for themselves. It deserves also to be remembered that the third colony contained a farm which had been deserted as irrecoverably barren, after three years' ineffectual labour by the former cultivators. This farm was divided among eight colonial families. Its sterility has been subdued, and its surface loaded with the finest crops. The principal ingredient of the manure (p. 86.) now consists of lime, which is imported from the Zuider-zee, by water, to the peat-moss in the colonies, where it is burned at

a small expense. The bricks also are made in the colony at little more outlay than the wages ; and a thousand, which at first cost ten guilders, are now furnished for six (p. 115.) The digging and preparation of the peat for lime, and brick-burning, and household uses, supply employment and subsistence to a number of colonists.

Three of the colonies are called free colonies ; because the colonist is only bound to remain in them until the reaping of each harvest, if he repays the Society all the advances which have been made on his account. The young, also, may leave these colonies, after confirmation, and completing the course of instruction in the colonial schools. They receive upon their departure all their deposits in the Savings Bank. Many of them have found good situations, and against none have any complaints been made.

In colony No. 5, or Ommerschans, on the other hand, the length of the colonist's residence depends upon his behaviour. This colony is situated about four hours journey to the north-

east of the town of Zvolle, in the province of Overyssel. The country around it has a bleak and desolate appearance, and the black mossy soil which covers its surface, seems to produce nothing but stunted heath, and the coarsest grasses. The country is extremely flat ; and, although the richest meadows extend on each side of the Vecht River, these, and every other appearance of cultivation, are lost before arriving at the district, in which the very worst of the poor colonies of Holland has been founded, and is flourishing. The approach to Ommerschans is indicated, by the effects, which the well directed industry of a horde of outcasts from society has produced. The eye is refreshed with the spots of verdure, contrasting so remarkably with the blackness of the adjoining heath. A nearer approach displays to the astonished observer extensive fields of sown grasses, and a large extent of surface, bearing, in profusion, every variety of agricultural produce.

The Restraint Colony of Ommerschans was opened, for the reception of paupers from the workhouses, in the year 1822: when the Per-

manent Commision offered to admit them into that colony, under the following conditions.

The colonist must be free from any bodily infirmity, and not less than six years of age. For each colonist, the sum of 35 *fl.* annually, must be paid, during 16 years ; and vacancies occurring during that period, may be filled up by others. The colonist must be transported, at the expense of the sender. The Permanent Commis-sion became bound for their maintenance and instruction—in an industrious mode of living—in the ordinary branches of school education, and—in the principles of religion.

A committee was appointed by the government to inquire into the number of paupers contained in the different workhouses of the northern part of the kingdom, and to report if all, or how many of them could be accommodated, in the poor colonies. The result of their investigations was, that by contracting with the Society of Benevolence, all the young and grown-up paupers, who were in a condition to maintain themselves by their own labour, at least within the northern provinces, might be totally absorbed, in the course of two

or three years. This extraordinary change would be also produced, by saving a considerable expense to the public. The costs of *merely managing* the workhouses, in which only seven or eight hundred paupers were confined, amounted to 22,575 *fl.* annually, or about 30 *fl.* a-head ; while, the whole expenses of every kind for managing, feeding, clothing, instructing, &c. in the colonies, amounted only to a few florins more.

In compliance with the report of this committee, an order in council, of the 13th March, 1822, enacted : 1st, All the paupers in the public workhouses, who had no bodily infirmity, and were capable of undergoing the fatigue of working in the fields, shall be sent to the colonies. 2d, The contract price shall be paid by those communities, where the paupers had obtained their last domicile. 3d, The terms of the contract shall be settled, between the home secretary and the Permanent Commission ; but, under the condition, that the contribution for each individual shall not exceed 35 *fl.* annually. 4th, The rules of the different workhouses shall be adopted, as far as possible, by the Permanent Com-



mission ; and particularly those relating to the dismissal of the individuals, who are no longer likely to relapse to their former condition. *5th*, The expenses of transport shall be paid by the different communities to which the paupers belong.

The number of colonists sent by the government in the first year, to Ommerschans, amounted to 1000, or 1200 ; and similar institutions were ordered to be prepared, for the reception of the remainder. In 1826, there were 1300 beggars in Ommerschans, and they consisted of about equal proportions of men and women.

The building at Ommerschans is in the form of a quadrangle, and consists of two stories, containing thirty large rooms and other smaller apartments. Each side of the square is 316 feet long. In the interior of one side, and near each other, are the houses of the under officers of the Society M. Harloff was, in 1826, at the head of this colony ; and dwelt in a house near the entrance to the establishment, but on the outside of the ditch surrounding it. The guard-house is placed at a short distance from the

entrance, and a company of soldiers do duty there every month ; but their services have never been required, except in the mere act of mounting guard. The hospital is also placed on the outside of the square, but within the ditch. Beyond the ditch, is situated the burying-ground. We inspected the hospital very recently ; and found there, dreadful scenes of distress, owing to the extensive sickness which then prevailed in the colony. The paupers generally arrive in a very wretched condition, and the keen air of the desert is frequently more than their shattered constitutions can bear. Deaths are therefore numerous, and we were told, that no less than forty-one had died during the first four months of 1826. The hospital was extremely crowded, and the apothecary so much employed, as to have little leisure for conversation. This hospital was not of a good construction, and was particularly ill ventilated.

Each of the thirty rooms in the interior are intended to contain forty individuals, or 1200 in all. Their beds are in the form of hammocks, which

are hoisted up to the ceiling during the day ; and the benches are so made as to contain, separately, the clothes of each of the colonists. They sleep and eat in the same room. A clerk is allowed to every four rooms. One room contained forty boys. They are taught to read and write, but there is no school for the grown-up people, except during the winter. A clergyman conducts the public worship and catechising of the colonists. The rooms were not particularly clean or well-aired ; but they were much better than people in that wretched condition of life generally occupy. The same remark may apply to the linen and beds.

The washing-house is on the outside of the square. One female colonist is appointed to wash for each room. She must return the articles every Saturday, and may win 2 *fl.* a-week, as wages.

The bakehouse is also on the outside of the square, but near a different angle from the hospital and washing house. The bakers may gain 3 *fl.* a-week. The bread is composed of one-third potatoes, and two-thirds rye ; but the

moisture is previously taken from the potatoes by grinding them in a mill.

The peculiar adaptation of the soil of the colonies to the growth of potatoes, when combined with the diminished demand for them, and the low price which they bore in 1823, made it necessary for the colonists to provide some means, for the consumption of that article, among themselves. It was, therefore, arranged, that every colonist might bring a part of his potatoes to the bakehouse, for the purpose of having them converted into this sort of bread, which—tasted very well,—was much cheaper, and—not less nourishing than the ordinary kind. Before the ground potatoes were mixed with the dough, they were reduced by drying, and pressed into one half of their original weight. Of this practice, we could not approve, as it occasioned the loss of much of the flour, or most nutritious portion of the potatoe. A schepel of potatoes yields, in this manner, from twenty to twenty-five pounds of bread, worth about three farthings a pound. The colonists, thus, received a better price for their potatoes, and the Society also derived con-

siderable advantage. Ten schepels of potatoes grew upon the same space of ground which produced one schepel of rye; and three schepels of potatoes produced as much bread as one schepel of rye could do alone. One-third only of the surface, therefore, was necessary for growing the requisite quantity of potatoes for the bread; and 6000 *fl.* were divided annually among the colonists as wages for work connected with the bakehouse, preparing fuel, &c. This alteration, in the composition of the bread, had been universally introduced over the colonies; and there were delivered, in 1826, about 40,000 lbs. weekly.

The annexed table will show the sum total which every colonist of the twelve different classes is required to win each week. One plentiful meal, daily, is furnished to them for that sum; and, if they require more, to which, however, few of them have ever been accustomed, they must buy it for themselves from the shop-money, and from the rest of their wages. This, by industry, they are all enabled to do. Their comforts are thus made to depend upon their in-

dustry ; but, if in good health, they are compelled to work to the extent of winning sufficient wages to pay for their bare sustenance, according to the annexed table. If from the idleness of the colonist, the requisite sum be not earned, confinement and flogging, from ten to sixty lashes, may be employed. There are severe penalties against drinking ;—fifteen lashes may be inflicted for that offence.

*Classification of the different Colonists in the Agricultural Workhouses, and the Wages which every Individual is required to earn Weekly, as confirmed by the Decree of 6th April, 1825.*

The 12 different Classes of Colonists.	For expenses of Administration.		For Clothing.		For Fire and Light.		For Reserve Fund.		For washing.		For Food.		For Repairs.		For items from Shop.		Total Weekly Winnings.		General Remarks.	
	Fl.	Cts.	Fl.	Cts.	Fl.	Cts.	Fl.	Cts.	Fl.	Cts.	Fl.	Cts.	Fl.	Cts.	Fl.	Cts.	Fl.	Cts.		
MALE COLONISTS.																				
1st Class	-	12	25	5	-	13	25	25	10	35	35	5	50	1	70	1	51			
2d Class	-	12	25	2	-	8	12	12	8	32	30	4	40	1	35	1	26			
3d Class	-	5	20	2	-	6	5	8	6	32	30	4	30	1	6	1	98½			
Boys	-	9	18	2	-	6	9	9	6	24	22½	3	30	1	1	1	95			
Children	-	6	12½	1	-	4	6	6	4	16	22	2	20				75			
FEMALE COLONISTS.																				
1st Class	-	12	25	5	-	10	22	22	10	32	32	5	40	1	51	1	63			
2d Class	-	12	25	2	-	8	12	12	8	30	22	2	35	1	26	1	55			
3d Class	-	12	12½	2	-	6	9	9	6	22½	22	2	20							
1st Class, Girls	-	9	18	2	-	6	9	9	6	22	15	2	26½							
2d Class, Girls	-	9	10	2	-	4	6	6	4	15	17½	1	15							
1st Class, Children Spinners	-	6	12½	1	-	4	6	6	4	15	17½	1	17½							
2d Class, Children Spinners	-	6	10	1	-	4	6	6	4	15	12	1	12							

Field labour is always regarded as the most important, and is consequently the best paid. Women, by working in the fields, generally win from 2*fl.* to 3*fl.* a-week, and men from 4*fl.* to 6*fl.* The master-smith may win 7*fl.* a-week ; the wrights, from 3*fl.* to 5*fl.* ; and the weavers, about 3*fl.* Several colonists have already been dismissed from the institution, after acquiring confirmed habits of industry, and a considerable sum of money.

The whole colonists' pocket-books are settled every Friday, and revised every Saturday, as in the other colonies ; and the balance, which they are entitled to receive, is paid in copper and iron money. This coin circulates only in the colony. The copper money buys such articles as are produced in the establishment, and the iron money such goods as are imported. The iron money is not re-circulated, but is kept to show how much the colonists annually spend for what may be called foreign produce.

Each colonist receives, on entry, two shirts or shifts, two pairs of stockings, two short-gowns or jackets, two petticoats or pairs of trowsers,



two handkerchiefs, two aprons, one pair of wooden shoes, one knife, one spoon, bed, &c. and a Bible.

From 900 to 1000 morgen of heath have been cultivated in the course of the last four years. The farms consist of forty-two morgen, and are calculated to maintain twenty cows, two horses, a hundred sheep, and four pigs. The farmers are generally meritorious individuals, who have been promoted from the other colonies. Each farmer receives a male and female servant from the Society gratis; and the farmer himself is so far a servant of the Society, that his services are rated at the weekly wages of 5*fl.* 4 stivers. From the farm which he occupies, however, he must send into the colonial magazine daily, or weekly, a certain quantity of farm produce. The farmer is debited with the rent and the wages of the work done by the colonists on his farm, and credited with the produce delivered, and his own wages. The surplus goes into the farmer's own pocket, or the deficiency is retained from his wages. The farm produce is always rated a little cheaper than in the adjoining markets, which,

from the lowness of their rents, the farmers are well able to bear. Many farmers were said to be in a very thriving condition.

After the colonist has won the sum required for his sustenance, the surplus is divided into three parts. One of these is immediately paid him, another is kept in reserve for him, and the last third is transferred to the Society to meet various incidental expenses ; particularly for the support of those who, from no fault of their own, have been prevented from earning the sum sufficient for their maintenance.

Whenever the colonist has accumulated 25 *fl.* of saving, and has conducted himself properly, the Society has no longer any power to retain him, and he is free to remove, upon receiving the permission of those who sent him.

The rye, potatoes, flax, barley, buck-wheat, oats, and clover, in this colony, have been all very productive, and although the produce of the first years was averaged at only 50 *fl.* per morgen, there seemed to be every probability of its reaching 100 *fl.*

The paupers, in this agricultural workhouse,

from the date of their first arrival, to the 30th November, 1823, had earned 18,946 *fl.*, after deducting all expenses—for their maintenance, and—for the costs of the administration. Of these, 6315 *fl.* 33 cents had been paid to the colonists in money, as much carried to their credit in the savings bank, and an equal sum appropriated by the Society, as already mentioned. Twenty-nine of the most industrious colonists had been dismissed, and had taken along with them, from the savings bank, 1097 *fl.* 41 cents. Ninety-four others possessed, among them, 2940 *fl.* 65 cents, and would soon be also entitled to their discharge.

Experience had shown, that, in the free colonies, a class of individuals resided, who were too negligent and careless for the comparatively mild system of administration adopted in these, and yet not so vicious as to warrant their being placed under the rigid discipline of *Ommer-schans*. For these, the colony of Veenhuisen afforded a proper receptacle.

The approach to Veenhuisen is, in every respect, similar in character to the neighbourhood

of Ommerschans. The heath is widely extended, and the desert, dreary. The fields of the colonists are like the Oasis, blooming in the midst of sterility and desolation.

The buildings at Veenhuisen are erected in the form of a square; the sides of which are 600 feet long. Along the inner side of this square are arranged the dwellings of the orphans, &c.; and, on the outer side, are placed commodious small houses for those colonists who have been dismissed for bad conduct, or as improper objects, from the free colonies. There are twelve chambers for the orphans in the interior, each calculated for the reception of eighty, or for a total of 960. 160 orphans, or the inmates of two chambers, are placed under the inspection of a man and a woman; and their room is situated between the two large chambers, and furnished with two glass-doors, so as to enable them to see into both, and prevent any improper behaviour among the children. Very recently, there were 550 orphans in this establishment. We examined their condition most minutely, on account of some rumours which had reached our ears, re-

garding their treatment ; and several of the ordinary orphan hospitals, still remaining in the towns, had been previously inspected for the purpose of better understanding the contrast. A careful comparison produced the conviction, that the food in the colonies was equally excellent—the appearance of the children more cheerful—their occupations more healthful, and—their education better calculated to promote their progress in after-life, than the system followed in the towns.

For the purpose of initiating the children early to active employments, they are divided into four classes. The fourth, or highest of these, ought to win 25 *stivers* per week; the third, 21 *st.*; the second, 15 *st.*; and the first, or youngest, 7 *st.* The one half of the surplus is placed, weekly, at their own disposal, and the other half is accumulated in the savings bank. The youth of the first class prevents regular attendance at school; but the second and third are in the school between nine and ten, and two and four. The scholars pay nothing for instruction, and the school-books are also free. The Society fur-

nishes Bibles to those who are able to read. They are taught to sing, read, write, count, &c. in the schools. The strongest, or fourth class, go to school in the evening betwixt six and half-past seven o'clock. The working hours in the fields, during summer, are from six to twelve, and from two to six. The breakfast consists of coffee, and bread and butter ; the dinner, of strong soup and butcher meat ; and the supper of vegetables from the gardens, or of bread and milk, or barley and milk. The granaries, warerooms, &c. are above the rooms. The sleeping chambers are not placed here, above each other, as at Ommerschans; where that arrangement was found to be the cause of much trouble, from its enabling those in the upper chambers to disturb and annoy the inmates of the lower. The large square in the centre affords a safe play-court for the children ; and in it are contained a part of the arrangements, by which a great supply of the most powerful manure is procured for agricultural purposes. Every inmate of the colony is, immediately on his arrival, washed, cleaned, clothed, and kept separate for a week.

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On the inner-side of the canal, but separated from the rest of the buildings, are placed the bakehouse, smithy, washing-house, and the dwellings of the conductors of the field-labour. The house of the sub-director, with the necessary offices, are situated on the outer-side of the canal.

The buildings of this colony were begun on the 1st of May, 1823, and finished in September of that year. Several canals were also cut, five large farm-steadings raised, and 150 morgen of the heath cultivated.

The houses of two superintendents face each of the outer sides of the square, for the purpose of controlling their inhabitants. From these houses, the superintendents may view and overlook the side of the square, which fronts them. The colonists, on the outside, are generally persons who require a strict inspection.

There is another quadrangle, not far from the one just described, and of a similar construction. Both the outer and inner sides of the building are, however, inhabited by persons similar in character to the inmates of Ommerschans, with

this difference, that the married live on the outside, and the unmarried men and women, separate of course from each other, dwell in the interior. Two stoves are placed in each of the large rooms of the interior. Each hall for the women contains eighty, and each bed is numbered. Every two rooms have a washer-woman. The body-linen, &c. is changed every Saturday, and the bed-linen once a-month. The Bible is not read publicly, each day, in the large rooms; but the members of the different persuasions must attend to their religious duties, and clergymen are paid for that purpose.

The manufactory is situated above the houses, on one of the sides, which prevents the thorough ventilation of the rooms below on that side: as the space below is divided by the wall which separates the inner from the outer range of chambers, and has, consequently, no cross-draught of air to purify its atmosphere. Indeed, the means of ventilating the large rooms, are, generally, insufficient in all the quadrangles; and, when we consider the number of



people in these rooms, (in bad weather, during the whole of the day,) and the connection between good air and good health, more attention ought to have been paid to this subject.

Hair, wool, &c. are carded by the young in the manufactory ; but here, as in the other colonies, the profits from house-labour are always proportionally smaller than from work done in the fields. The highest sum made by weaving, per week, was stated to be 3*fl.*

The hospital here, was not sufficiently clean. There were only twenty colonists in it out of 400. The apothecary had been himself one of the colonists. The functionaries, placed over the apartments of unmarried women, were also, in some cases, themselves unmarried.

The ware-room enters from the outside, and occupies a loft above the rooms on one of the sides of the building. It contained clothes, and every other article required in the establishment.

The colonists, on their arrival, were stated by the officers of this and all the other estab-

lishments, to be able neither to read nor write, notwithstanding the wide dissemination of elementary schools throughout Holland.

The farmers here have 50 morgen, 20 cows, 100 sheep, &c. The money system of this colony differs from that of Ommerschans in this respect, that the division, or work-masters, distribute small pieces of white money, each equal to 10 cents, or 2 stivers, on the Fridays; and, that the colonist must take these to the ward-master or major, on the Saturday, and receive from him the corresponding value in the metal and card-money current in the colony. The money here is also differently marked, so as to be distinguished from that of Ommerschans. The officers of the company receive the half of their pay, in the money of the colony. The colonists employed as sentries, receive 2 fl. 50 cents each per week; and, if any desertions take place, their pay is diminished to 2 fl. To the person, who brings back a deserter, within the space of three months, a certain sum is paid, for each hour of distance.

In a third quadrangle, near the one last de-

scribed, the system of management, and structure of the buildings, are not so materially different as to require any lengthened detail. No stranger could, however, inspect this colony, without being led, by its appearance, to consider it as much superior to any of the others. The orphans have here also three meals :—breakfast, dinner, and supper ; and all the young, who are not strong enough to work in the fields, are taught to be spinners, knitters, carpenters, carders, tailors, &c. The orphans receive, in this establishment, a better education than they do in the towns, and they work more in the open air. They all looked healthy ; and no finer sight can be imagined than the 1300 male and female orphans who lived in the interior of this quadrangle. The sixty-six families of paupers on the outside, seemed also to be in a state of great comfort and prosperity. Two lamps, and two looking-glasses, eight tables, and sixteen benches, were in each of the large chambers. This quadrangle, and the one last described, were erected in the course of the year 1825.

There is a separate head schoolmaster, with

three assistants, for this establishment. All receive Bibles, and are obliged to take them to church, but it is not made compulsory to read them at home. There are 1000 children attending the school daily, in five divisions of 200 each. Every one of these divisions consists of three classes. The school begins at six in the morning in summer; and those who come at six, go away at eight. There is no school from eight to ten. The second set attend from ten to twelve; the third, from one to three; the fourth, from five to seven; and the fifth, from seven to nine. The course of instruction here is nearly the same as in the other establishments. There are three annual examinations; and, at each of them, premiums are distributed to the leading boys. No whipping is ever employed in this school. The children of the outer inhabitants attend along with the orphans.

There is here a bakehouse, wash-house, &c. as in the other establishments. No beer, nor strong drink, of any kind, is ever allowed in any of the colonies. The kitchen occupies the whole

space between the outer and inner walls of the building; but, the outside windows are grated, so as to prevent all communication by them between the exterior and interior sides. A small enclosure has been carefully surrounded by a close paling, as a play-ground for the youngest orphans. A part of the centre of the inner court is laid out as a flower garden; and there are six morgen of garden around the establishment.

At nearly an equal distance from the three colonies last described, there are the Catholic and Protestant churches, and the houses for the Priest and the Reformed Minister. The cost of these four buildings was paid by the King.

The crops of buck-wheat, rye, clover, &c. were all very promising. The colonists were busily employed in paring, burning, digging, trenching, turning dung-hills, drawing dung-boats along the canals, discharging them, &c. Three ploughs were seen going on one of the fields. A large quantity of land was also observed in its first state of cultivation, with

the turf lying in heaps ready for burning, and the trenches cut, and the white sand laid out for mixing with the moss-earth. Three hundred morgen had been cleared with the assistance of thirty-seven horses, in the course of one year. The pastures, generally, were excellent; and a large field of rye and oats, which had been covered with heath during the preceding August, attracted particular attention. The nine rotation system is followed on the lands here; but, the order in which the crops succeed each other is so much affected by circumstances, that no short account can be given of it. Three year's pasture seemed not unfrequently to follow the first crop, which was almost universally potatoes or rye, sown down with clover and rye-grass. It is calculated, that each morgen, which cost the Society originally only 30 *fl.* may, at the end of the sixteen years, be averaged as worth, at least, 500 *fl.*

As a manure for curing the acidity of the mossy-soil, the thick clotted oil which adheres to the barrels of the retailers, has been found very useful. The oil is boiled in order to make it

liquid, and the dry dust of peat-ashes is well moistened with it. Ten cart-loads of excrementitious matter, sixty of sheep, horse, and cow-dung mixed, and three of the ashes and oil, were said to be the best proportions. A cask of such refuse oil costs about 54 *fl.* and was stated to be sufficient to manure, at the above rate, from three to five morgen. This mixture forms a strong manure for the first crop.\*

• During our recent visit to the colonies, we noticed with particular delight, the condition of Frederiks-Oord. The crops were luxuriant, the colonists healthful, and the houses comfortable. Several of the colonists had acquired considerable property. Many gardens were planted with currant-bushes, pear, and apple-trees, and tastefully ornamented with flowers. Additional live stock belonging to the colonists themselves, was frequently pointed out; and, around not a few of the houses, lay webs of linen, bleaching, which had been wove on their own account by per-

\* Many similar preparations, and differing from ordinary farm yard manure, have been long known in Flanders and in this country. See *Hunter's Georgical Essays*, *Adam's Essays*, &c.

sons, who, only four years before, were among the outcasts of society. The families found at dinner, had quite the appearance of wealthy peasants ; and, from the quantity and quality of the food before them, they might have been considered, as not inferior to the smaller tenantry of this country. The Jews were allowed to rest both on the Saturday and Sunday ; but were, of course, obliged to work harder on the other days.

Several of the division masters had been themselves colonists. Many of the families were employed, in wheeling out manure, which was not rough and strawy, but in a uniform state of advanced decomposition. The whole materials seemed also to be thoroughly blended together ; and the state of the crops on the adjacent fields, sufficiently proved the fertilizing powers of this rich compost. The cultivation of a portion of the land in every colony, by the society for the common benefit, (p. 40.) and the common pasturage of the cattle, &c., continued to be followed with the best success. The colonists generally rented the cows of the Society ; but, as these are sometimes neglected, and even seriously in-



jured, if the ward-masters be careless in their visits, it has been found, to take much trouble off the hands of the officers of the Society, when the colonists employ their first savings in purchasing cows for themselves. The visitor of the colonies, will find an excellent inn at Frederiks-Oord, and several of the most interesting colonial families in its immediate neighbourhood.

The colonies, including Veenhuisen and Ommerschans, now exceed eight in number; and it would only be exhausting the patience of the reader to enter into the details preceding and following the foundation of each. The grand general principles, already so fully illustrated, have been the uniform guides, and the occasional deviations from them, have arisen from the peculiarity of local circumstances, seasons, and markets. The following account, however, of the finances of the Society, at the end of the year 1824, after the extension of their generous schemes, cannot fail to give high satisfaction, as demonstrating, at once, the greatness of the means employed in this benevolent undertaking, and their practical adequacy.

The income of the Society amounted to

1,304,896 *fl.* 2½ cents. These are reported under six heads.

	Flor.	Cents.
1. Contributions of members,	67,694	80½
2. Loans under the specified conditions,*	1,031,581	71
3. Particular contracts with various communities for the maintenance of their poor,	30,254	0
4. Paid by the colonists,	79,987	87
5. Farm produce, &c. sold out of the colonies,	81,920	76
6. From sundries,	13,456	88
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	1,304,896	2½

The Society's expenditure, on the other hand, was 1,105,144 *fl.* 59 cents, and consisted of the following heads:—

	Flor.	Cents.
1. Bought lands,	75,057	68
2. New buildings,	154,119	9
	<hr/>	
Carry forward,	336,209	24

\* The repayment of these loans, within a certain definite time, is always secured by previous contracts. See p. 47. 65.

	Flor	Cents.
Brought forward, -	336,209	24
3. First cultivation of land,	107,032	47
4. Purchase of manure,	41,943	64½
5. Sowing, and price of seed,	55,165	50
6. Household plenishings, field implements, and clothing, . . .	83,266	78½
7. Manufacturing labour,	83,791	80½
8. Particular advances to the colonists, . . .	51,140	25½
9. General advances to the colonists . . .	17,336	66
10. Bought provisions, .	18,011	2½
11. Construction of canals,	17,824	58½
12. 13, 14. Burning bricks and lime, and prepar- ing turf, }	33,681	4
15. Digging marl, .	2,255	51
16. Payments toward the ad- ministration-fund of the different colonies, .	21,065	40
17. General outlays for the benefit of the whole co- lonies, . . .	5,674	45½
Carry forward, -	767,365	90½

DEBT PAID OFF.		175
		Flor. Cents.
Brought forward,	-	767,365 90½
18. General outlays for the Company,	. . .	35,614 29½
19. Salaries,	. . .	16,653 64½
20. Sundry expenses of ma- nagement,	. . .	8,929 3½
21. Law expenses, interest of debt, premiums of insurance, &c.	. . .	276,581 71
		<hr/>
		1,105,144 59

Many of these articles are obviously not of annual occurrence, and almost all the ordinary ones were above their usual maximum. 156,500*fl.* of the borrowed capital had been also paid off.

Passing over minor details, the Company possessed, on the 1st of April, 1824:—

- |                           |                                |            |
|---------------------------|--------------------------------|------------|
|                           | Morgen.                        |            |
| 1. In cultivated lands,   | 500 potatoes.                  | } 1,700 m. |
|                           | 600 rye.                       |            |
|                           | 500 clover.                    |            |
|                           | 100 flax, and                  |            |
|                           | other manufacturing materials. |            |
| 2. In uncultivated lands, | 6000 morgen.                   |            |

3. In live stock,      539 cows,  
                             83 horses,  
                             3670 sheep,

4. In buildings

In colonies 1 and 2, 98 colonial dwellings, besides the houses of the officers, and of the public institutions of the Society.

In colony 3, 100 houses, &c.

In colony 4, 105 colonial houses; and besides the usual public buildings, a smithy, a dyeing shop, and a dwelling house for the Catholic priest.

In colony 5, or Ommerschans, the Society possessed the houses, barns, and sheds, of thirteen large farms, already mentioned, each of them equal in extent to twelve of the common ones. It was the intention to increase these large farms to twenty. The free colonists, who had been promoted from the other colonies, and to whom these farms had been let, were all accumulating wealth. The large building in this colony, the dwelling house of the Sub-Director, a barrack, and sundry buildings within the intrenchment, also belonged to the Society.

The central structure was originally prepared for 1000 paupers, but has since been enlarged for the reception of 1200.

In colony 6, there were 65 houses, besides the dwellings of the superintendents, belonging to the Society.

In colony 7, the Society possessed 50 houses and farms, just ready for the reception of a new body of colonists.

In colony 8, or Veenhuisen, the principal building, with its appurtenances, and five extensive farms as at Ommerschans, belonged to the Society. The two additional quadrangles, and a great proportion of the 60 large farms, into which it is intended to divide the adjacent heath, were not completed until after the year 1824.

In Great Waterin,—the institution for instructing young colonists in the theory and practice of farming,—the Society possessed the school-master's, and scholar's houses, the farm steading, containing accommodation for twenty cows, a large quantity of sheep, agricultural implements, &c. Thirty young men were already

receiving education, and in 1826, there were fifty-eight.

Music, land-measuring, natural history, botany, mathematics, algebra, geography, History of Holland, chemistry, the Bible, and the theory and practice of agriculture, are the subjects on which the pupils receive instruction. They sleep in the school-room, upon hammocks, which are hoisted up during the day. They are reared in a very hardy manner. In summer, they rise at five, and are occupied in the school until seven. Between seven and eight, they breakfast. From eight to twelve, they are engaged in the field. The hours between twelve and two, are allotted for dinner. Between two and six, they are again employed in field labour. The scholars are intended to remain here seven years, and generally come at the age of fourteen. The head master, Mulder, a Swiss, receives 700 *fl.* a year and a free house. There is an officer under him, called a sergeant, and who is similar to the division-master in the free colonies. The exhibition of these orphans going through their

gymnastic exercises, and their voices when singing national airs and songs, descriptive of their condition, cannot easily be forgotten by those who have had an opportunity of being once present on these occasions.

The practical husbandry of this establishment seemed to be very perfect. The use of cold and warm water among the milk while churning, and the proper times for applying it, were completely understood. The lambs were all kept in a long covered shed, and the ewes were not with them, except during the night. They were a breed between the Drenth ewe and the Guelder ram. The swine were very bad; and the milch cows seemed rather large and fat. The pig-styes, and the shed for the lambs, were bedded with heather and thin turf, and without any other addition, except the refuse of the food, yielded a great quantity of rich manure. The agricultural implements, particularly the ploughs, were not such as would be considered good in this country, although in some respects much better than those used in the adjoining districts. The net



profit to the Society, from this farm in 1825, was stated to be 900 *fl.*

In Diever, a large building was begun, resembling the one at Ommerschans, for the reception of 1500 paupers.

The colonial possessions included also a variety of other buildings, used by the general direction, &c. The moveable property in the colonies, and in the warerooms, was reckoned worth 318,053 *fl.* 37 cents.

A careful examination of the Society's receipts and expenditure, of their extensive tracts of highly cultivated and productive land, of their property in buildings, and of their steady revenue from contracts, not only convinced the members of the Society and the public of Holland, (who on such a question must be considered as the most competent judges,) of the complete solvency of the undertaking, but induced a general belief, that the discharge of every obligation might be much more easily made than had been originally contemplated.

From the report, made to the States by the

minister of the interior on the condition of the charitable institutions of the kingdom in 1825, and other documents, we gather the following particulars :—

In 1825, the Benevolent Society of the northern provinces contained 13,862 members. The colonies were divided into eight establishments, of which three are called free. They formed a total of 416 dwelling-houses, 6 large depots for children and paupers, and 37 large farms, with their dependencies.

On the 31st of December, 1825, the total population of the colonies, in the northern provinces, amounted to 6778, viz., 3227 disposed in families, 2174 orphans or foundlings, and 1377 paupers. 2604½ morgen of land had been cultivated. The deaths were 9 in the 100.

Considering, says the report, 1st, That the system of colonization differs from every other species of charitable assistance, in requiring only the payment of the expenses of the first establishment, and that the colonists are afterwards enabled to maintain themselves, and require no additional support as long as their bodily strength will admit of

their cultivating the ground ; 2d, That the labour of the colonists is of such a nature as to augment the mass of the necessaries of life, and that it consequently neither consumes nor diminishes the wages of other classes, but, on the contrary, contributes to the general well-being of the state ; and, 3d, That the great extent of waste lands in the kingdom, susceptible of cultivation, open a vast field for the enterprises of these societies : the government is more and more convinced that it has become their imperative duty, to encourage, in a special manner, these interesting undertakings.

For this purpose, it is strongly recommended, that the managers of the different charitable funds of the kingdom should co-operate with these societies more cordially than they have hitherto done.

The general condition of the schools may be gathered from the remarks already made on those of several of the colonies. In 1824, 72 of the scholars were dismissed as sufficiently instructed, although they had arrived in the colonies quite ignorant, and had only attended the schools one

hour each day, during two, three, or, at most, four years. Sunday schools have been established, for the instruction of those grown-up persons who have not sufficient spare time during the week. The management of these schools is excellent, and they are most numerous attended.

A small library of select books is kept for the use of those who attend the Sunday schools, and these books are much read.

The religious instruction is placed, as has been already remarked, under particular clergymen. Twice a week, the minister of Vledder communicates this instruction to both old and young in the 1st, 2d, and 4th colonies. Every Sunday, in summer, catechizations are held from six to eight in the morning. Of the '300, from these three colonies, who attended these catechizations in the year 1824, 61, including both old and young, were admitted members of the Protestant church, and the number of communicants thereby raised to 230. "Real and heartfelt piety," says the clergyman, in his report, "is rapidly increasing among the colonists, and has begun to operate upon their lives. All strict measures of

police, for the purpose of restraining the disorderly, or exciting the idle, have become unnecessary on the part of the direction."

The clergyman at Steenwick, to whom the 3d and 6th colonies are entrusted, reports no less favourably of the influence of religious convictions over the feelings and morals of his colonists. 220 persons of different ages had gone through the preparatory catechizing; and, that only 33, for the most part women and girls, were confirmed, was owing entirely to the constant employment of the men in the works at Veenhuisen. The total number of communicants, however, amounted to 203. The Protestant community in No. 5. or Ommerschans, exclusive of the functionaries of the Society and farmers, contained 550 members, and of these 172 were communicants, and 160 had undergone the preparatory catechization. The church in this colony had been opened in May, 1823, and the silence and pious deportment of all who attended the public worship of God, was such as would have been creditable to even the best educated classes of society. The public worship and religious in-

struction of the Catholics is conducted by the priest in Ommerschans, and in the free colonies, in a separate chapel. The religious establishments at Veenhuisen have been already mentioned. In the course of the six years preceding 1824, it had never been found necessary to deliver any of the colonists to the ordinary civil judge, excepting one person for stealing peat. No complaint against any of the colonists had been made by any of the inhabitants of the neighbouring villages.

The too rapid increase of the population within the colonies, is rendered almost impossible, by the great mortality, arising not from mismanagement in the colonies, but from the debilitated condition of the colonists themselves, and by the care taken to prevent marriages or other connubial connexions of a shorter duration. No marriage of one colonist with another is allowed, unless either one of the contracting parties, or their parents, be a widow or a widower, and in possession of a farm. A considerable number of young colonists are also annually returned to society with competent powers and ca-

pacities for earning their own subsistence. From the 1st of April 1823 to the 1st of April 1824, no fewer than sixty-four, of both sexes, were sent forth to become, it is hoped, useful members of society ; and this will appear a very large number to those who remember, that most of the colonists were overloaded with uneducated children, and that the vigorous youths are of essential service in the different colonial families.

The hospitals, in general, were neither sufficiently ventilated nor sufficiently clean, and the simple mode of securing *perfect ventilation*, by suspending a lamp, so as to burn close at the lower orifice of an aperture communicating through the ceiling with the open air, was quite unknown. But, the medical attendance seemed to be ample, and the number of deaths occurring monthly, arose entirely from the shattered constitutions of the colonists, and not from any carelessness or want of skill on the part of those entrusted with that department. Besides the resident apothecary in each colony, a salaried physician from Steenwick, visited every colony once a week, and

remitted to the director every month a report on the state of disease in each.

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The Dutch system of poor colonies has also been introduced, with the happiest effects, into other countries. Not to mention the experiment of Berndorf in 1760, which, however, miscarried from want of attention to the details, nor those made in Switzerland, Hungary, Saxony, Hesse, Holstein, Schleswig, and at Phalzdorf in the Duchy of Cleves, it may be sufficient to glance at the present condition of the poor colonies in the southern provinces of the Netherlands.

These colonies are under the same regulations as those in the northern parts of the kingdom, and seem to be enjoying an equal prosperity. They were begun about five years ago, at a place called Wortel, in the province of Antwerp. The agricultural workhouse or colony of restraint, at Merxplas, was not established before the 25th August, 1825. The undertaking in the south, however, is smaller, the funds less, and public participation fainter; notwithstanding the constant communication of their proceedings and reports to the public, by the columns of the 'Phi-



lanthrope,'\* a journal similar in purpose and character to the 'Star.'

The following table embraces the last report on the condition of these colonies :—

• This Journal is written in French, and is entitled "**Le Philanthrope, recueil publié par ordre de la Commission Permanente de la Société de Bienfaisance, établie dans les Provinces Meridiolanes du Royaume de Pays-Bas.**"—*Bruxelles.—Weissenbruck.*

*State of the Establishments of the Society of Benevolence of the Southern Provinces of the Kingdom of the Netherlands, on the 31st December, 1826.*

Number of the Colonies.	Number of Dwelling Houses and other Buildings.	Number of Colonists.	Of Orphanages & Foundations.	Paupers in the Depot.	Total Colonial Population.	Number of Mergers reclaimed from the health, & in different stages of cultivation.
1	FREE COLONY, No. 1. Farm Houses - - - 70 Other Buildings - - - 6 76	459	14	—	473	245
2	FREE COLONY, No. 2. Farm Houses - - - 55 Other Buildings - - - 2 57	54	—	—	54	205
3	COLONY OF RESTRAINT. Farm Steadings - - - 4 Central Depot - - - 1 5	—	—	925	925	435
	Total 188 Total on 31st Dec. 1825 138 Increase on 31st Dec. 1826 -	513 494 19	14 18 Min. 4	925 604 321	1452 1116 386	885 493 392

The excellent system of agricultural management is here attended by the same consequences as in Holland, and the undiminished fertility of the ground, under rather a severe rotation of cropping, is fully established.

In the course of the ten months, from September 1826, to 1st June 1827, the births amounted to fifteen and the deaths to six, in colonies 1 and 2.; and the deaths to one hundred and thirty-three, in colony 3.

M. de Pup's 'poudre saline' has been found highly useful as a manure, particularly upon the lands which have already produced a crop. Fifteen hundred pounds weight of the 'poudre' are required to manure a morgen, and these cost only 30 *fl.* Twenty waggon loads of ordinary manure would be required for the same quantity of land, and these cannot be valued at less than 5 *fl.* per waggon load, or 100 *fl.* in all. By the use of the 'poudre,' therefore, a direct saving of 70 *fl.* per morgen is effected, besides the extra-carriage requisite, if the ordinary manure had been employed.

In the free colonies, the utmost possible safe

extention to the colonists, of the right to manage their own farms, has been followed by good effects, and has relieved the officers of the Society from much trouble. Eleven families received this permission in July 1826; and, in December of that year, many of them had paid to the Society the half-year's rent of their farm, 25 *fl.*, although it was not exigible before the 10th of January following. Twenty additional families received the same privilege in the end of the year 1826.

In three years preceding 31st December, 1826, the Society lost, by death, only five cows out of one hundred and forty-four; and fifty-two sheep out of a thousand, during the course of four years.

It has been found advisable to compel the colonist who once runs away, to wear a certain dress, both as a punishment for desertion, and as a means of pointing him out to the special attention of the sentries.

In the severe months of January and February, of last year, it became necessary to make advances to many of the colonists. Agricultural labour was, for a long period, entirely interrupt-

ed, and the manufacturing department was incapable of supplying such extensive employment. Indeed, we observed, that the severity and length of the winter generally exposes the condition of every colonist to more or less danger. But, if ever an experimental colony be established in this country, this source of alarm will be almost removed by the totally different character of our wintry months.

Exclusive of the product of the gardens, and the one hundred and twenty-five cows, the reaped harvest of 1826, notwithstanding its deficiency from the dryness of the weather, was estimated at :

	Flor.	Cents.
For the free colony, No. 1,	8852	79
For the free colony, No. 2,	2128	26½
For the colony of restraint, or agricultural workhouse,	12,389	02½
	<hr/>	
	23,370	08

The income, or credit of the Society, including arrears from the sub-committees, was stated, on the 31st March, 1825, to be

364,921,38 *fl.*, and the expenditure or debt, 267,502,73½ *fl.*; leaving a balance in favour of the Society, of 97,418,64½ *fl.* The real wealth and solvency of the Society, was also fully established by the increased value of the Society's possessions, and by their numerous contracts with the different communities for the maintenance of the poor.

Excepting a few moon-light flittings, which occur occasionally among the tenantry of every country, and a few desertions, and, on one occasion, an appearance of insubordination among the inmates of the agricultural workhouse, during the absence of the director, the ordinary arrangements and established mechanism of the colonies, had gone on smoothly and harmoniously. The state of the crops—the internal condition of the houses—the moral character of the colonists, &c. formed the subjects of inquiry to a special committee of inspection, and their report, on the 29th July, 1826, is highly satisfactory and exhilarating on all these particulars.

A great improvement has been introduced, by—increasing the number of sub-committees,

—making them consist of more members, and—appointing a council of inspection in every province, with which all the provincial sub-committees are connected. Formerly these sub-committees were few in number, (p. 7.) and contained only six or seven members, and were obliged to communicate with the Permanent Commission at a distance. The consequences, since the introduction of this change, have proved that the old faulty system occasioned the withdrawal of many members from the Society, and the loss of large sums of arrears of subscriptions.

Mr. James de l'Espée of Bruges, left the Society a bequest of 10,000 *fl.* in November, 1823; and the Society, in token of their gratitude for so handsome a legacy, transferred to Mr. l'Espée's heir, the Viscount de Nieulant of Bruges, the perpetual right of presentation to six farms, under the usual conditions.

Among the inmates of the agricultural workhouse at Merxplas, who, by good behaviour and by the acquisition of the 25 *fl.* were entitled to their dismissal, one requested to be allowed to remain during another year, and a second during three months.

The managers of the several poor-funds, particularly in the towns, had frequently mistaken the proper objects for the free colonies, and had sent to them the very worst and most troublesome of their population. In these colonies, however, where the restraint is gentle, such profligate and reckless members have been found difficult to control ; and arrangements are now making to prepare such a system as will be able to meet these occasional emergencies, without altering the character of the colonies to the meritorious and well-behaved.

Last June the children were making rapid progress in the schools under Mr. Vandenbos and his two assistants. One of these assistants was Toussaint Gadisseur, himself a young colonist of only fourteen years of age, and highly distinguished by great quickness and assiduity. The religious institution was also conducted with equal success.

FINIS.

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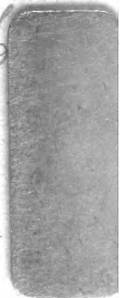
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